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A-League Round 6 Friday 15th Nov - Sunday 17th Nov 2013



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Mulching in Melbourne

Zee Ko

A bad weekend all around left all concerned scrambling for positives, as four out of the five Melbourne teams in action slumped to chastening losses. Mind you, the one team that escaped unscathed only did so at the expense of another as Melbourne Victory youth team left it late to clinch Youth Derby bragging rights.

No such luck for Victory's seniors as they returned home from Sydney empty-handed and with their tails between their legs. All the talk pre-match had been on under pressure Sydney coach Frank Farina, but some suicidal defending from both sides led to five goals in the first half as Victory roared back from a two-goal deficit before conceding an Alessandro del Piero penalty.

Much would have been made of the Italian maestro's seeming eagerness to go to ground at the slightest contact, but the fact remains that the visitors should have done so much better after being a man up for much of the contest. Mark Warren's red card should have handed Victory the advantage, but it was not to be as the travellers were stymied by del Piero and co.

It wasn't much fun back home in Melbourne either, as Melbourne Heart suffered yet another chastening loss to the high-flying Western Sydney Wanderers. The only thing separating the two teams in the end might have been

Finding the Silver Lining



Melbourne Victory's Emma Checker

Shannon Cole's decider, but the old adage holds true – if you don't score, you can't win.

The Red and White have scored only two goals all season, with both efforts coming in the Round 2 draw against Central Coast Mariners. It is a situation that has coach John Aloisi scratching his head bemusedly, as he continues to praise the decent football that his team have been playing despite being on the wrong end of score lines. It is a situation that won't last for much longer if results continue, with the coach bound to be under some serious pressure if they fail again this

week. The long list of walking wounded may serve as an excuse of some sort, but Heart need to find a solution (and some goals) fast. Andrew Nabbutt might not have been able to repeat his super-sub heroics at Allianz Stadium on Saturday evening with his 20 minute cameo, but it was back to business as usual the next day as assistant manager/youth coach Darren Davies led a motley crew of ambitious youngsters and first teamers to a win over Melbourne Heart.

It was an unusual sight to see Gui Finkler running around on the Lakeside Stadium turf, but even with the Brazilian magician in mid-

field the sides remained stubbornly deadlocked for most of the game. Heart youth custodian Marko Stevanja had been in excellent form so far this season, and was looking in fine nick once again. But there was little the goalkeeper could do four minutes from time as Nabbutt's fierce drive beat him all ends up. Jess Makarounas added a second shortly after, but the bragging rights were well and truly with the navy blue side of Melbourne.

While Davies seemed delighted with the result and the way his charges seemed to be mirroring the possession based football the senior team have adopted, Heart

youth coach Joe Palatsides seemed fairly upbeat too despite the loss. The former Australian international defender reasoned that his young team could only get better as the season progresses and they get used to one another, and it's actually doesn't seem too far off the mark. The team have started well despite this latest stumble, and having picked up several promising youngster like Stevanja and Hernan Espindola, can only expect to improve in time.

One team that definitely needs a pick me up is last year's W-League runners up. Melbourne Victory's W-League team were all pumped up for a Grand Final rematch with Sydney FC but fell woefully short and on the wrong side of a 1-5 score line. South Australian wunderkind Emma Checker opened the scoring after only three minute, the new Victory defender popping up to nod in a Stephanie Catley corner to spark celebrations in the stands but it was all downhill from there. Coach Dave Edmondson has set up his team to play out of the back and along the ground, but it was Sydney who out-passed the home team and absolutely steamrolled Victory by putting five goals in the net. Player for player, Victory looked second best all over the pitch with the exception of 2013 Female Footballer of the Year Lisa De Vanna but there looked to be a general lack of ideas as Sydney got on top early and didn't let up.

There were a few silver linings despite the disappointing result though. Just as this writer predicted, young Emily Hulbert was rewarded with a starting spot and did not embarrass herself in a tidy 45-minute outing. Together with the precocious Checker, who had to fly back home soon after to take

her Year 12 exams, the future looks bright. But first, a trip to Adelaide to face Edmondson's old team this weekend. A loss would be unthinkable given Victory's 100% record against the traditional wooden spooners in recent seasons. This is a match they have to win, and convincingly. No pressure.

GOAL! WEEKLY

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INFORMATION NIGHT

Wednesday 20 November, 7.30pm
La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus
West Lecture Theatre
Enter from Kingsbury Drive

FREE TRIAL EVENING

Friday 22 November 2013, 6.30pm
Darebin International Sports Centre

ONLY 30 PLACES LEFT
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By Roger Sleeman

November 11th each year, marks the anniversary of the World War 1, Armistice.

Significantly, two days later, for those who embrace our rich football history, November 13th, 1973, was the day Australian football changed forever.

When Jimmy Mackay launched that thirty yard piledriver past the exasperated South Korean keeper to provide Australia with that 1-0 winning margin in Downtown Hong Kong, he laid a permanent platform for future Socceroo squads to crave qualification for future World Cup Final tournaments.

On Wednesday this week, the significance of November 13th took on an even greater meaning as members of the 1974 campaign gathered with the current Socceroo squad to meet Costa Rica, at the Intercontinental Hotel in Sydney to mark the

Lest We Forget

40th anniversary of the qualification for Germany, 1974.

On Thursday, the former Socceroos, generously sponsored by the FFA, flew to Hong Kong for seven days to retrace their steps and celebrate the milestone.

The touring party included coaches, Rale Rasic and Les Scheinflug, Adrian Alston, Ray Baartz, Manfred Schaefer, Max Tolson, Jimmy Milisavljevic, Bobby Hogg, Jim Fraser, Ernie Campbell, Harry Williams, Johnny Watkiss, Jimmy Rooney and George Harris.

At the Intercontinental, the current squad was in awe of the former stars but what was most pleasing, both groups mingled freely after the official duties were completed and it was clear to all that despite the generation gap, many colourful stories were being exchanged.

Some of the current squad had never heard of their predecessors, let alone met them at close quarters to discuss life in football.

Surely, the penny has to finally drop with the FFA that all former players should be engaged and identified in



The legendary Jim Mackay

the football family.

What they have to realise is, the players should take centre stage in the game, not the administration.

Meanwhile, I stayed awake until 11.40 p.m. on Wednesday night and as I took a deep breath, I was reminded the memory of Jimmy Mackay's magnificent strike which was broadcast on ABC television that fateful night of November 13th November, 1973, will occupy my thoughts for eternity.



The Socceroos line up against East Germany in 1974

Mile claims top gong



Mile Jedinak and Lisa De Vanna have claimed the Male and Female Footballer of the Year titles at the fifth annual Australian Football Awards which were held at a gala event at the Sydney Convention Centre on Wednesday night.

The Australian Football Awards brings together all levels of the sport from the grass roots football community through to the ranks of the Socceroos and Westfield Matildas, providing a unique opportunity to recognise and reward outstanding achievements.

In the other professional category awards the Female U20 Footballer of the Year went to Westfield Matilda Stephanie Catley for the second year in a row and Newcastle Jets midfielder Josh Brillante took out Male U20 Footballer of the Year.

In the non-professional category teams, volunteers, coaches and referees from around the nation were also recognised.

The male coach of the year award

2013 Australian Football Award Winners

- PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**
- Footballer of the Year (male):**
Mile Jedinak, Crystal Palace
- Footballer of the Year (female):**
Lisa De Vanna, Melbourne Victory
- U20 Footballer of the Year (male):**
Josh Brillante, Newcastle Jets
- U20 Footballer of the Year (female):**
Stephanie Catley, Melbourne Victory
- NON-PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**
- Volunteers of the Year:**
Alex & Alexandra Threadgate (Northern NSW Football)
- Referee of the Year:**
Katherine Jacewicz (Victoria)
- Team of the Year:** Senior Men's Team – FNQ FC Heat (Queensland)
- Coach of the Year (male):** Alan Paice, (Sturt Lions FC – South Australia)
- Coach of the Year (female):**
Michelle Aourousseau, – ACT
- The Asian Cup 2015 Community Project of the Year Award:**
Australian Somali Football Championships Unite FC
- The ME Bank Green Card for Fairer Play Award:**
Tamar Felsch (Terrigal United)
- Pararoos Footballer of the Year:**
James Turner (NSW)

went to Alain Pace of South Australia and the female coach of the year went to Michelle Aourousseau from Canberra.

The referee of the year went to Katherine Jacewicz from Victoria and the volunteer of the year award was presented to the husband and wife team of Alex & Alexandra Threadgate Maitland in Northern NSW for their work with children with additional needs.

Two new awards were also presented with Tamara Felsch from Terrigal, NSW receiving the ME Bank Green Card for Fairer Play Award and the Australian Somali Football Association receiving the Asian Cup 2015 Community Project of the Year Award.

James Turner from NSW was named the Pararoos Footballer of the Year.

The age of Ange is upon us

By Bryson Ferreira

A new era in Australian football begins on Tuesday night, as Ange Postecoglou and his new-look Socceroos team prepare to take on fellow World Cup contestants, Costa Rica.

Perhaps as expected, Ange's first 22-man squad included a few surprises, and excluded a few more.

The axing of defenders Luke Wilkshire and Sasa Ogrenovski, as well as the shock retirement of our greatest goalkeeper of all time, Mark Schwarzer, has sent shudders through an aging squad.

The older, more experienced players like Lucas Neill and Mark Bresciano, no longer seem to be shoe-ins for the starting 11, and will have to fight for their place in the team.

Most of the talk throughout the week has surrounded Lucas Neill, and whether or not he can retain his spot in the team, let alone keep the captaincy.

Throughout his time as a manager in the A-league, it's been no secret Ange has had a reputation of shifting out the old guard, and also doesn't mind changing captains.

For Lucas Neill, this might not necessarily mean his time in the team is over, if Adrian Leijer's steady career at the back for the Victory during Ange's time there is anything to go by.

Neill doesn't mind playing out from the back, and at his best would without a doubt feature in Ange's passing based, pressing



No time to lose: Ange Postecoglou took his first session as new Socceroo boss during the week

style of play.

The question is however, it's been a while since Lucas has been at his best, so it will be up to him to show Ange he can step up over the next two weeks.

As for Tim Cahill, he seems to be the only player of the last generation to almost walk into the team [when he's fit].

Cahill experienced a hamstring/upper thigh issue in his last US club game for the season, so whether he is fit enough to play remains to be seen.

Ange will also have to work out how he wants to use the MLS star. Cahill was used as an impact player under Guus Hiddink, a regular starter and saviour under Graham Arnold and Pim Verbeek, and a lone striker under Holger Osieck.

Could Cahill be given more of a

licence to roam under Ange? All will be answered over the next nine months.

Although Postecoglou has had to make some tough calls this week, there's no doubt that the future seems a little brighter after the inclusion of some exciting youngsters, not to mention those still waiting in the wings.

Without putting too much pressure on some very young names, the likes of Rogic, Davidson, Kruse, Bozanic, Oar and Zullo have the future of Australian football at their feet, not to mention Langarak and Ryan who have the biggest shoes [or gloves] to fill of all.

In terms of Tuesday's match, it's hard to imagine Ange having too much of an impact in just one week.

There should however, be added

Match Details

Socceroos vs Costa Rica
Tuesday 19 November 2013
Allianz Stadium, Sydney
Kick Off: 7.30pm Gates Open: 6pm
Broadcast LIVE on FOX 3
Ticket Prices – General Public
Category A - \$85 all tickets
Category B - \$55 Adult,
\$30 Concession/Child, \$140 Family
Category C - \$30 Adult,
\$15 Concession/Child, \$75 Family
Terrace Australis - \$30 Adult,
\$15 Concession

excitement amongst the squad, given so many young and enthusiastic faces will be looking to cement their place in the team and a place on the plane to Brazil.

The Socceroos come up against a Costa Rican team who breezed through their qualification zone and earned automatic qualification to next years tournament in Brazil, and are currently ranked 31st in the FIFA World rankings.

Having finished second to the US in CONCACAF qualifying, the Costa Ricans will be confident heading into next years World Cup, not to mention Tuesday's friendly against a Socceroos team with two 6-0 losses in a row.

With wins over Mexico and the United States, and with players like Fulham star Brian Ruiz, and Arsenal youngster Joel Campbell; it may well be a baptism of fire for Ange and his new-look squad.

The Socceroos always play well at home however, and with a new sense of excitement, and a mixture of youth and experience in the squad, expect an Aussie team with more than a few points to prove.

Arnold to explore Asian opportunity

Central Coast Mariners advises that the Club's Head Coach Graham Arnold will travel to Asia this week with a view to joining a successful top-flight side.

Arnold's ambition to coach abroad at the highest level possible is well documented, and with strong interest from a Club in one of Asia's biggest leagues, the Mariners acknowledge that there is a strong probability Arnold has coached his final fixture for the 2013 Hyundai A-League Champions.

Should Arnold sign in Asia, current Central Coast Mariners Assistant Coach Phil Moss will be promoted to the role of Head Coach at the Mariners. At minimum, Moss will take charge of the Club's first team training sessions while Arnold is abroad.

Central Coast Mariners Group General Manager, Mr Peter Turnbull, said that the Club has been working on a succession plan for Arnold's eventual departure for some time.

"The success of our Club over the past three seasons under Graham Arnold and his staff always meant Graham would receive interest from rival Hyundai A-League and foreign Clubs," Turnbull said.

"As such, we have been planning for the past 18 months for Phil (Moss) to take on the role of Head



Coach of the Club upon Graham's departure. Of course, Graham has been helping prepare Phil for the position."

"We will know for certain by no later than Sunday whether or not Graham has finalised a deal in Asia, and will notify our members, fans, and media of any updates as soon as possible."

Central Coast Mariners will make no further statements regarding

Arnold's potential departure until such time as the deal is finalised, or he returns to the Club to continue in the role of Head Coach.

Graham Arnold was unavailable for comment until such time as the deal with the Asian Club is finalised, or he returns to the Mariners. However, Arnold wishes to advise he will fulfil Australian media commitments when he returns from Asia.

No NPLV in 2014

By Paul Mavroudis

Football Federation Victoria has announced that their National Premier League Victoria model would not proceed in 2014. Instead, the league system as it currently exists, including the Victorian Premier League, will continue in 2014. The decision to not proceed with NPL Victoria in 2014 was met with mixed reactions.

The FFV expressed its disappointment, while reiterating its reasons for sticking with its NPL model. The clubs opposed to the FFV's model responded with a mixture of disappointment and relief. Of those parties who had put in a licence application for NPL Victoria, Ballarat Red Devils expressed their anger at the process, after the FFV's repeated vow that NPL Victoria would proceed in 2014 did not come to pass.

A marathon 10 hour meeting was held last week between the FFV, Football Federation Australia and representatives of the 62 co-signatory clubs opposed to the FFV's NPL model. The meeting was arranged to try and find a compromise solution see NPL Victoria proceed in 2014, as well as avoid the pend-



NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES

THE NPL SAGA

ing Supreme Court action launched by the co-signatory clubs.

A compromise was reportedly close. However, the FFV later reportedly backed out of the deal. The reasons for the FFV backing out are still not clear. Last month the co-signatory clubs brought forward legal action in the Magistrates Court, seeing injunction preventing the FFV from proceeding with NPL Victoria, as well as taking up their issues with the FFV constitution to the Supreme Court. The clubs won on both counts.

The failure of the two sides to reach a compromise will see Victoria as the only state to not implement an NPL program by 2014. It also significantly increases the likelihood that the matter will reach the Supreme Court.

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Ganso



Ibrahimovic



Neymar



Thiago Silva

AUSTRALIA'S 2013 NUMBER ONE NIKE TEAM WEAR SUPPLIER

SCOREBOARD

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Brisbane Roar	5	4	0	1	10	2	8	12
2 Western Sydney Wanderers	5	3	2	0	7	3	4	11
3 Melbourne Victory	5	2	2	1	8	7	1	8
4 Perth Glory	5	2	2	1	4	4	0	8
5 Central Coast Mariners	5	1	3	1	6	6	0	6
6 Newcastle Jets	5	1	3	1	4	5	-1	6
7 Sydney FC	5	2	0	3	5	9	-4	6
8 Adelaide United	5	1	1	3	7	8	-1	4
9 Wellington Phoenix	5	0	3	2	5	7	-2	3
10 Melbourne Heart	5	0	2	3	2	7	-5	2

THIS WEEK	Round 6	Fixture	Venue	Local	AEDT
	Fri Nov 15	Melbourne Heart v Sydney FC	AAMI Park	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sat Nov 16	Perth Glory v Adelaide United	nib Stadium	2:30 PM	5:30 PM
	Sat Nov 16	West Sydney Wanderers v Melbourne Victory	Parramatta Stadium	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sun Nov 17	Newcastle Jets v Brisbane Roar	Hunter Stadium	5:00 PM	5:00 PM
	Thu Dec 19	Central Coast Mariners v Wellington Phoenix	North Sydney Oval	7:30 PM	7:30 PM

NEXT WEEK	Round 7	Fixture	Venue	Local	AEDT
	Fri Nov 22	Brisbane Roar v West Sydney Wanderers	Suncorp Stadium	7:00 PM	8:00 PM
	Sat Nov 23	Sydney FC v Wellington Phoenix	Allianz Stadium	5:30 PM	5:30 PM
	Sat Nov 23	Melbourne Victory v Adelaide United	Etihad Stadium	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sat Nov 23	Perth Glory v Central Coast Mariners	nib Stadium	6:30 PM	9:30 PM
	Sun Nov 24	Newcastle Jets v Melbourne Heart	Hunter Stadium	5:00 PM	5:00 PM

ROUND FIVE

Melbourne Heart 0
Western Sydney Wanderers 1
(Cole 27)
Crowd: 8070 @ AAMI Park

Wellington Phoenix 1 (Durante 4)
Perth Glory 1 (Nagai 29)
Christchurch

Adelaide United 1 (Ferreira 71)
Newcastle Jets 2 (Jaliens 40, Taggart 52)
Crowd: 10,244 @ Coopers Stadium,

Sydney FC (Garcia 3, Ryall 15, Del Piero 37)
Melbourne Victory (Thompson 17, Troisi 27)
Crowd: 18,784 @ Allianz Stadium

Central Coast Mariners 0
Brisbane Roar 1 (Yeboah 89')
Crowd: 8,303 @ Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford

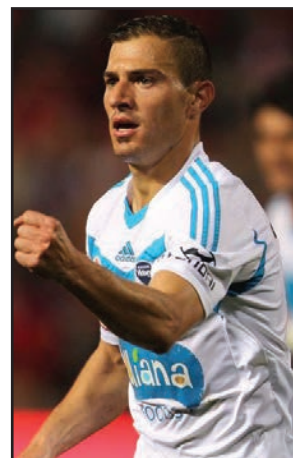
TOP GOAL SCORERS

05 James Troisi (Victory)

04 Henrique (Roar)

03 Matthew Smith (Roar)
Marcos Flores (Mariners)
Jeronimo Naumann (Adelaide Utd)
Ryo Nagai (Glory)

02 Alessandro Del Piero (SFC)
Archie Thompson (Victory)
Tomi Juric (Wanderers)
David Williams (Heart)
Mitchell Duke (Mariners)
Fabio Farriera (Adelaide)
Andrew Durante (Phoenix)
Jeremy Brockie (Phoenix)



Even though he was on the losing end of a 3-2 epic against Sydney FC, another goal by James Troisi puts him in front as the outright leader in the hot-shot stakes with 5 goals .

A-LEAGUE TEAM OF THE WEEK Round 5

Follow Steven Talevski on twitter @steventalevski.

Compiled by
Steven Talevski



This weekend by far was the most difficult to select Goal! Weekly's team of the week after a number of star performances. Brisbane Roar was all class against the Mariners, while Sydney FC fought hard with ten men to pick up the points in the Big Blue. Gary Van Egmond finally got a breakthrough victory with his young Jets side, the Wanderers picked up the three points against the Heart and the proclaimed 'Distance Derby' ended with a one all draw with nothing but travel distance separating the two teams. Here is our team of the week:

GK: Liam Reddy - Handed his debut for the Mariners by Graham Arnold, the gloveman had a terrific game against his old side. Reddy kept the Mariners in the game by saving shots from Henrique, Ivan Franjic and Dimi Petratos. Only a Kwame Yeboah strike could deny Reddy a clean sheet.

RB: Jack Hingert - Hingert played how a positive full back should on the weekend by helping out in attack and defending well against an attacking Josh Rose.

CB: Kew Jaliens - The former Dutch international was a standout in defence for the Jets against the inform Marcelo Carrusca and Jeronimo Nuemann. Jaliens also made his presence known in attack and found the back of the net from a corner.

CB: Matt Smith - The Brisbane defender led his side from defence on the weekend as they well and truly announced themselves as title contenders. Smith helped the Roar to a clean sheet in Gosford while also making almost 100 successful passes.

LB: Scott Jamieson - Making the longest road trip in the A-League is no easy task, and Jamieson made it look like he did not have jet lag at all, by storming up and down the left wing for 90 minutes. CDM: Nick Montgomery - Despite the Mariners going down against the Roar, Montgomery had a fantastic game by chasing balls all around the park.

RM: Carlos Hernandez - Fresh from the announcement of his return to the World Cup bound Costa Rica squad, Hernandez pulled another great shift in Phoenix colours. Hernandez's attacking abilities along with improved work rate has become a central figure in Wellington's team.

LM: Mitch Nichols - The former Brisbane Roar youngster is continuing to impress in Victory colours. His ball to Connor Pain that set off the events leading to Marc Warren's red card was straight out of a training session. His lob to set up Mark Milligan's missed opportunity was even better.



Newcastle's
Andrew Hoole

RW: Shannon Cole - Brought in by Tony Popovic in an attacking role, Cole did not disappoint as his sole goal sealed the one nil away victory for the Wanderers.

CF: Alessandro Del Piero - Although he was criticized on twitter for the amount of free kicks he was awarded by sections of football fans, Del Piero was superb against the Victory. His leadership on field allowed the Sky Blues to remain calm with ten men as his penalty was the decisive winner.

LW: Andrew Hoole - The Jets youngster won the plaudits of many viewers on the weekend as he played in Adam Taggart for the Jets winner.

Coach: Mike Mulvey - Kwame Yeboah's late strike sealed the three points for Mulvey's men who were superb all around the park. Playing against a strong Mariners side, the Roar did not look out of their depth as they controlled the games possession and scored a deserved late winner. Mulvey has made this team back into title contenders.

Star Man: Andrew Hoole - One of the Jets young brigade, Hoole was the standout not just against Adelaide but on the weekend. His willingness to attack is to be admired as he originally broke out for Newcastle as a full back. Hoole's telling pass to Taggart was one of many as the Jets picked up their first victory of the season.

Melbourne heart



0

Western Sydney



1

Match Details

Melbourne Heart 0
Western Sydney Wanderers 1
(Shannon Cole 27')
AAMI Park
Ht: 0-1
Referee: Peter O'leary
Attendance: 8,070

Melbourne Heart: 1. Andrew Redmayne (GK), 2. Jeremy Walker, 3. Robbie Wielaert, 6. Patrick Gerhardt, 7. Iain Ramsay, 8. Massimo Muroccca, 11. Michael Mifsud, 14. Golgol Mebrahtu (23. Mate Dugandzic 76'), 15. David Williams (22. Nicholas Kalmar 64'), 16. Aziz Behich, 28. Paolo Retre (21. Stefan Mauk 71')

Substitutes Not Used: 20. Tando Velaphi, 18. David Vrankovic
Yellow Cards: WieLaert 41', Behich 54', Shannon Cole 68'
Red Cards: Nil

Western Sydney Wanderers: 1. Ante Covic, 2. Shannon Cole (7. Labinot Haliti 71'), 3. Adam D'apuzzo, 4. Nikolai Topor-Stanley 6. Jerome Polenz, 9. Tomi Juric, 10. Aaron Mooy, 11. Brendan Santalab (19. Mark Bridge 58'), 13. Matthew Spiranovic, 18. Iacopo La Rocca, 21. Shinji Ono (8. Mateo Poljak 79')

Substitutes Not Used: 12. Tahj Minniecon, 20. Jerrad Tyson (GK)
Yellow Cards: Santalab 23',
Red Cards: Nil

Heart Still Searching For First Win

By Adrian Houghton

Western Sydney Wanderers utility Shannon Cole scored the only goal of the match in a pulsating affair on a cold and rainy Melbourne night.

The hosts were looking to break a nine-game run without victory against an in-form Western Sydney Wanderers outfit, who came into the match with an 11-game unbeaten streak on the road.

Heart coach John Aloisi drafted Paulo Retre into the starting lineup at the expense of attacking mid-fielder Mate Dugandzic and striker Golgol Mebrahtu came in for Andrea Migliorini.

For the Wanderers, skipper Michael Beauchamp made way for Wanderers debutant Matthew Spiranovic at centre-back, whilst Shannon Cole, primarily played as a full back, was preferred instead of Mark Bridge in a wide attacking role.

The hosts started the game brightly with Michael Mifsud sending in a pinpoint cross, but Mebrahtu failed to hit the target.

Similarly to last week against Brisbane Roar, the Heart put their opponents under constant pressure in the early stages with the trio of David Williams, Mifsud and Mebrahtu forcing the Wanderers into hurried passes.

Spiranovic played a sloppy cross field ball under pressure that Williams almost profited from, but an onrushing Ante Covic did enough to ensure the ball didn't squeeze underneath him and into an empty net.

Massimo Muroccca's work rate and tenacious play in midfield continued to unsettle the Wanderers' passing rhythm.

But on 27 minutes the Wanderers went in front against the run of play, when Shannon Cole swept in a weak Rob Wielaert clearance, at the second attempt, following a cross from left-back Adam D'Apuzzo.

It was harsh on the Heart but for all the side's fine build up play, they

ultimately lacked that cutting edge in the final third.

That sentiment was all the more evident when their best chance of the opening half was a David Williams thunderbolt from 25 yards that swerved and dipped onto the crossbar.

Tony Popovic's men could have doubled their advantage when Shinji Ono clipped a ball to the back post that Tom Juric headed against the crossbar and Brendon Santalab, caught by surprise, could not steer the ball into the net from point-blank range.

After an energetic first half from both sides, the Wanderers controlled proceedings in the opening stages of the second period.

Western Sydney right-back Jerome Polenz began to influence proceedings down the right flank, and but for a wasteful Juric shot, the away team could have taken a two-goal lead.

Aaron Mooy sent a rasping 20 metre strike just wide of Andrew Redmayne's near post on 63 minutes, as the visitors struggled to gain a strangle hold on the match.

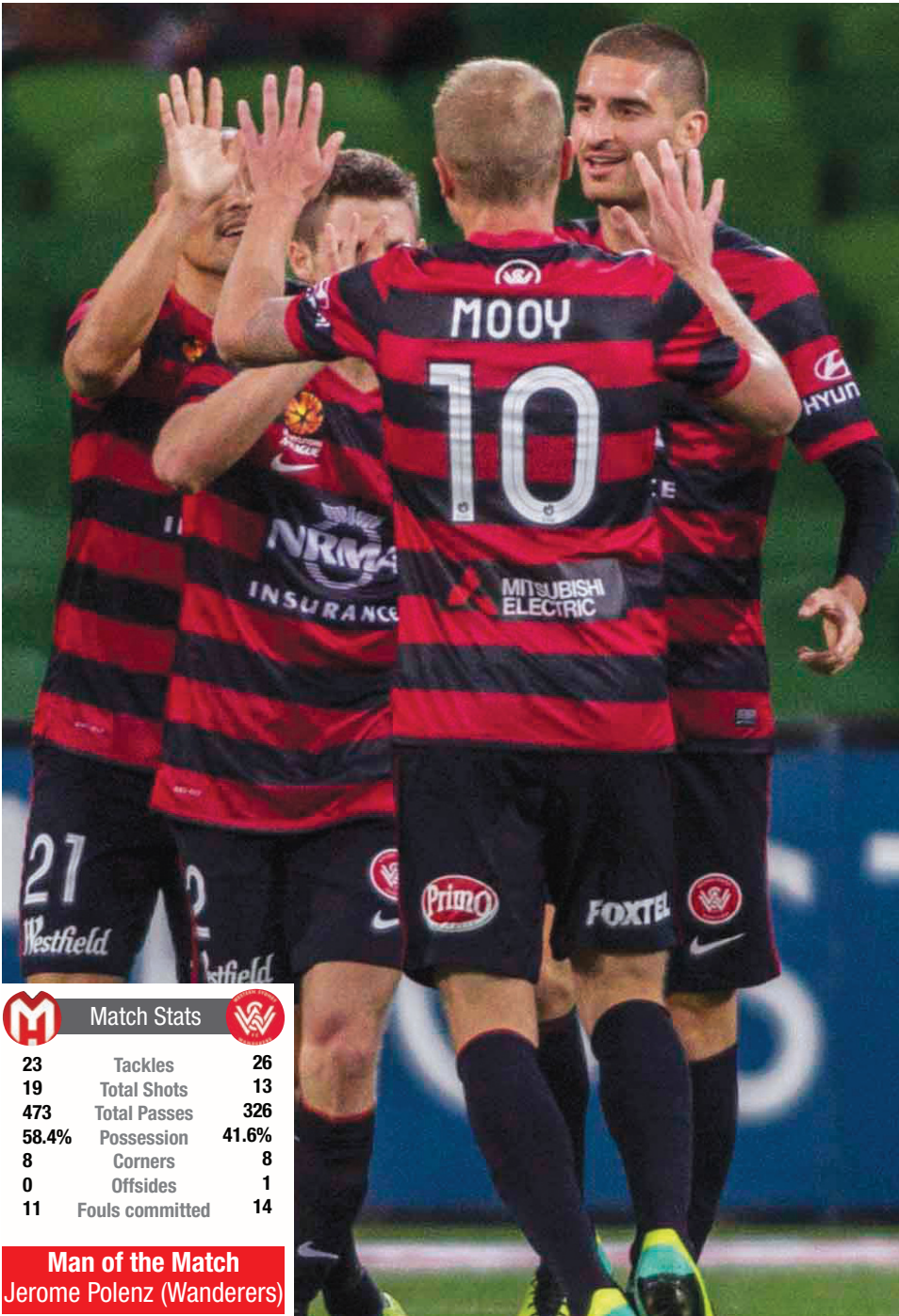
Red and White left-back Aziz Behich almost found equalising goal that the home team craved when he let fly with a powerful effort from outside the box, which Covic did well to punch to safety.

The Heart rallied late on and substitute Mate Dugandzic almost levelled the scores when he guided a looping header onto the crossbar from Aziz Behich's lovely floated cross.

Western Sydney came close to sealing their victory in the dying stages when substitute Labinot Haliti flashed a powerful shot narrowly wide of goal.

Minutes later and Juric beat Patrick Gerhardt for pace, but saw his powerful shot thwarted by a brilliant Redmayne save.

Western Sydney's victory sees them maintain second place in the table and leaves the bottom-placed Melbourne Heart without a win yet this season.



M	Match Stats	W
23	Tackles	26
19	Total Shots	13
473	Total Passes	326
58.4%	Possession	41.6%
8	Corners	8
0	Offsides	1
11	Fouls committed	14

Man of the Match
Jerome Polenz (Wanderers)

It's all high fives and back slaps for Wanderers match winner Shannon Cole (obscured).



Andrew Redmayne's head gets closely acquainted with Brendan Santalab's knee.



Heart huddle before the match but couldn't quite muster enough puff to oust WSW.



Michael Mifsud sings the opera whilst trying to escape past Nikolai Topor-Stanley.

Wellington Phoenix



1

Perth Glory



1

Match Details

Wellington Phoenix 1 (Durante 4)
Perth Glory 1 (Nagai 29)
Christchurch

Phoenix: Glen Moss, Andrew Durante, Ben Sigmund, Louis Fenton, Reece Caira, Manny Muscat, Albert Riera, Vince Lia, Jeremy Brockie, Stein Huysegems, Carlos Hernandez, Jason Hicks (Fenton 45'), Tyler Boyd (Huysegems 77'), Paul Ifill (Riera 65')

Unused subs:
Jacob Spoonley
Michael Boxall

Perth Glory: Danny Vukovic, Scott Jamieson, Matthew Davies, Steve Pantelidis, Michael Thwaite, Steven McGarry, Camerom Edwards, Sidnei Sciola, Jacob Burns, Ryo Nagai, Shane Smeltz, Jamie Maclaren (Smeltz 56'), Brandon O'Neill (Nagai 82'), Ryan Edwards (Edwards 57')

Unused Subs
Jack Duncan
Jack Clisby

Match Stats

14	Tackles	17
11	Total Shots	15
430	Total Passes	434
49.4%	Possession	50.6%
4	Corners	4
3	Offsides	1
14	Fouls committed	16

Man of the Match
Scott Jamieson (Glory)



Look Ma, no hands! Stein Huysegems juggles on his chest as Ryo Nagai closes in.

All Square In Christchurch Roadshow

By Joe Gallagher

Saturday's 1-1 draw between Wellington Phoenix and Perth Glory had more than its usual dosage of anomaly.

Both were in unfamiliar territory as A-League football ended a three-year hiatus in Christchurch, but what made this stalemate odd is that members of both sides became team-mates the second the final whistle sounded.

Wellington's Andrew Durante, Ben Sigmund, Glen Moss, Jacob Spoonley, Jeremy Brockie and Leo Bertos were joined by Perth's Shane Smeltz at full-time, dashing off to board a plane to Los Angeles for this New Zealand's World Cup playoff against Mexico.

Phoenix coach Ernie Merrick had only learned days earlier that he would have the six – the spine of his squad – at his disposal. New Zealand Football pushed kick-off back half an hour allowing the three to fly out and board the plane to America on time.

Some of the near-10,000 in attendance might have desired the same urgency throughout. The match, ignoring the two goals, was largely uninspiring.

Durante, making a record-132nd appearance for Wellington, opened the scoring in the fourth minute. The fortuitous finish was rare on two counts; it was only Durante's third for the club, and was the first time in a over a year the Phoenix had registered an early A-League goal.

What wasn't unusual was the assist by Carlos Hernandez. Since joining the Phoenix this season the Costa Rican has been at the heart of all that's been positive for the team going forward, and Durante's 'tap' in was no different.

On the half-hour Perth were level, the impressive Sidnei Sciola benefiting from right-back Louis Fenton's inexperience, bursting down the left, cutting inside and squaring to Ryo Nagai.

The striker took his time before

finishing past Moss – trying to 'walk it in', as one commentator put it – but picked his spot nicely.

Merrick responded to the goal by replacing Fenton at the interval. "He's missed six weeks of football with injury and he was struggling with Sidnei," he conceded.

Manny Muscat flanked the back four, while Jason Hicks deposed him in the engine room, a move that gained Wellington greater control of the midfield.

Hicks could have had his maiden goal, but fluffed his lines when attempting a first time effort on the fly. Nonetheless, Merrick was impressed with the rookie's performance. "I just feel that he's getting good experience and really fighting for a first-team chance. He's not far away."

Sigmund had a golden opportunity to snatch a winner, glancing a cross from – predictably – Hernandez wide of the post. Both he and Merrick admitted post-match they would have expected Sigmund, who headed a last-minute winner against Adelaide in his last hometown appearance, to have scored.

Substitute Jamie Maclaren blazed over from a tight angle after rounding Moss, but the second half was tight and well contested in the midfield.

Wellington registered another milestone when Paul Ifill came on for his 100th appearance, but the Barbadian could not inspire a winner as both sides' defences were unwavering.

Scott Jamieson turned out a man-of-the-match performance for the visitors. "He's been very good," coach Alistair Edwards said. "I believe he's knocking on the door of Socceroos selection. He's such a great trainer, [has a] good work ethic and was immense again today."

The fourth-placed Glory now return back home for two matches in a row. "They're a little bit disappointed not to get the three [points] in the end," Edwards admits. "But we're pleased with how we're go-



Air Play: Sidnei Sciola and Jeremy Brockie are at a stretch to win the heading contest.

ing. We're doing okay, we've just got to stop conceding silly goals from set pieces."

They'll certainly be buoyed by the arrival of star signing William Gallas, who'll be available for Saturday's fixture against Adelaide, though Edwards hasn't guaranteed

the Frenchman a start.

"We've got a number of players who'd consider themselves starters, and Gallas is one of them now."

A well-travelled Wellington – winless after five matches in five different cities – have a welcome week off. In a fortnight they'll travel to

Sydney for the first time since last season's 7-1 humbling against the Sky Blues. But Merrick remains hopeful.

"Hopefully thats when we break this hoodoo and get the first win on the board."



Power Play: Reece Caira attempts to break though Jacob Burns and Matthew Davies.

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Adelaide United

1

Newcastle Jets

2

Match Details

Adelaide United FC 1 (Ferreira 71')
Newcastle Jets 2 (Jaliens 41', Taggart 52')
Referee: Strebre Delovski
Crowd: 10,244 @ Coopers Stadium

Adelaide United: 1.Eugene GALEK-OVIC (GK) (c), 3.Nigel BOOGAARD, 4.Jon McKAIN (11.Bruce DJITE 64'), 5.Osama MALIK (13.Steven LUSTICA 46'), 7.JERONIMO, 8.ISAIAS, 9.Sergio CIRIO, 10.Marcelo CARRUSCA, 18.Michael ZULLO (6.CASSIO 64'), 21.Tarek ELRICH, 22.Fabio FERREIRA

Substitutes not used: 17.Awer MABIL, 20.Paul IZZO (GK)

Yellow Cards: Nil
Red Cards: Boogaard 90'

Newcastle Jets: 1.Mark BIRIGHITTI (GK), 2.Scott NEVILLE, 4.Kew JALIENS, 5.Ben KANTAROVSKI, 7.Andrew HOOLE (18.James BROWN 81'), 8.Ruben ZADKOVICH (c), 10.Nathan BURNS, 12.Connor CHAPMAN, 15.Josh BRILLANTE, 21.Sam GALLAWAY (16.Jacob PEPPER 90+3'), 22.Adam TAGGART (9.Emile HESKEY 70')

Substitutes not used: 19.Michael BRIDGES, 20.Ben KENNEDY (GK)

Yellow Cards: Jaliens 7', Chapman 37', Zadkovich 43', Birighitti 90+1', Brown 90+5'
Red Cards: Nil

Jets open account at Coopers in upset

By Matt Mays

A 10 man Adelaide United slumped to their third straight defeat and gifted the Newcastle Jets with their first win of the year.

Dutchman Kew Jaliens and Adam Taggart sealed the win either side of half time and held off a late resurgence from the Reds after Ferreira struck late on.

Nigel Boogaard picked up his second red card of the campaign and left his team to pick up the pieces, but another display of possession and no reward left Adelaide with a winless run of 4 games.

Tarek Elrich almost put United ahead early doors but a magnificent challenge from former Adelaide boy Nathan Burns saved the Jets bacon. The visitors came alive from then on and should have opened the deadlock shortly afterward.

At the other end from a Jets set-piece, Taggart was inches away from nodding home before Galekovic pounced and intervened. Then almost immediately Galekovic found himself lost in the box giving a chance to Burns to strike home, only to be denied by an outstanding goal line clearance from Elrich.

Adelaide failed to get going, but Jeronimo found himself one on one in a rare opening on the quarter hour but was denied by Jets keeper Birighitti.

The Reds back line was called into action again minutes later after Boogaard's last ditch goal line clearance from an Andrew Hoole header.

The Jets pressure finally paid off though five minutes before the break from a Burns corner. Scott Neville was on hand at the back post and thought he had scored if it wasn't for Zullo to block on the line. But there was Dutchman Jaliens to clean up and tap home to give the visitors a well deserved lead at half time.



Right on Cue: Former Dutch international Kew Jaliens made his mark in the A-League with the Jets' opener.

It got worse for the Reds shortly after the break. Half time substitute Lustica was caught high up the pitch and gifted the Jets to a quick breakaway. Hoole found Taggart who delightfully chipped the ball over skipper Galekovic to give the Jets daylight and stun the home crowd.

Adelaide struggled to get back into the tie, and left Spanish coach Gombau to make a double change with thirty minutes left on the clock. Cassio and Djite brought cheers and some optimism onto the field, and by all accounts it injected some life back into the Reds.

Ferreira headed home from a precise cross from Jeronimo with

twenty minutes left.

Adelaide seemed to be well up for an unlikely comeback and were inches away from doing so. Birighitti made a wonderful double save to deny Jeronimo.

But the Reds fate was finally sealed in stoppage time. Nigel Boogaard was sent for his second early bath of the season after a challenge on substitute marquee Emile Heskey. A delighted Jets boss Gary van Egmond praised his team for their efforts, particularly in the final third. "We created a number of chances and they obviously threw everything at us... we kept ourselves pretty solid," the coach said after the game.

"I am so pleased for the players, they have worked awfully hard and deserve all the credit today."

Reds boss Gombau was disappointed with the teams performance but re-iterates his commitment to the change of his teams style of play.

"I am unhappy today because we didn't play the way that we want to play and the way that we are working," Gombau said.

"On Monday we have training again and we need to work. I have one thing that is very clear and that is the style I want to play."

The loss seems even harsher for Adelaide when you look at the bigger picture. This was their last

home until early Decemebr and they take themselves to Perth Glory next week for William Gallas' debut game in Australia, followed by tough trips to both Melbourne clubs Heart and Victory.

Match Stats		
25	Tackles	20
18	Total Shots	13
447	Total Passes	248
63.4%	Possession	36.6%
5	Corners	4
0	Offsides	4
14	Fouls committed	24

Man of the Match
Adam Taggart (Jets)



The Jets go 2-0 up and surely can't lead another lead slip for the second week in a row.



Fabio Farreira heads home from the far post to pull one back for Adelaide.



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SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
World Cup 2014 Qualifier Playoff
1st Leg Israel v Croatia 5:50am
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**International Friendly England
v Chile 7am LIVE on setantasportsplus.com**

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
Skrill Premier Round 20 Barnet v
Cambridge 4:25am LIVE

MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
Sky Bet League One Round 16
Bradford v Coventry 2:25am LIVE
**Primera Division Round 16
Teams TBC 8:10am LIVE**
Primera Division Round 16
Teams TBC 11:10am LIVE

TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER
Sky Bet League One Round 16
Walsall v Peterborough 6:40am
LIVE

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
World Cup 2014 Qualifier Playoff
2nd Leg Croatia v Israel 6:05am
LIVE
**International Friendly England v
Germany 7am LIVE on setantasportsplus.com**
World Cup 2014 Qualifier Playoff
2nd Leg New Zealand v Mexico
4:30pm LIVE

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
World Cup 2014 Qualifier Playoff
2nd Leg Uruguay v Jordan 9:55am
LIVE

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER
**Copa Sudamericana Semi Final
1st Leg Teams TBC 8:20am LIVE**
Copa Sudamericana Semi Final 1st
Leg Teams TBC 10:50am LIVE
**Bundesliga Round 13 Preview
Show 7:00pm 1st Airing**

SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER
Bundesliga Round 13 Stuttgart v
Monchengladbach 6:25am LIVE
**Sky Bet Championship Round 17
Doncaster v Yeovil 6:45am LIVE
on setantasportsplus.com**
Copa Sudamericana Semi Final
1st Leg Highlights Show 12:10pm
1st Airing
**Sky Bet Championship Round
17 Sheff Weds v Huddersfield
11:10pm LIVE**
Scottish Premiership Round 14 St
Mirren v Hibernian 11:45pm LIVE
on setantasportsplus.com

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER
Sky Bet Championship Round 17
Wigan v Brighton 1:55am LIVE
**Scottish Premiership Round 14
Dundee United v Partick 2:00am
LIVE on setantasportsplus.com**
Bundesliga Round 13 Dortmund v
Bayern 4:25am LIVE
**Bundesliga Round 13 Hertha
Berlin v Leverkusen 6:30am 1st
Airing**
Bundesliga Round 13 Frankfurt v
Schalke 8:20am 1st Airing

MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER
Bundesliga Round 13 Werder Bre-
men v Mainz 3:25am LIVE
**Bundesliga Round 13 Hamburg v
Hannover 5:30am 1st Airing**
Primera Division Round 17 Teams
TBC 8:10am LIVE
**Primera Division Round 17
Teams TBC 11:10am LIVE**
Bundesliga Round 13 Highlights
Show 7:00pm 1st Airing
**Sky Bet Championship Round
17 Highlights Show 9:50pm 1st
Airing**



SBS ONE
Friday November 15th
7:00 pm A-League Live – Round 5:
Melbourne Heart v Sydney FC

Every Sunday
4:30 pm UEFA Champions League
Magazine

Every Monday
4:30 pm FIFA Futbol Mundial
11:00 pm The World Game

Every Thursday
8:30 pm Thursday FC
11:00 pm UEFA Champions League
Magazine

SBS TWO
Every Monday
8:40 pm A-League Highlights Show

Every Tuesday
5:00 pm A-League Highlights Show



ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE LIVE

WEEK 14
No matches scheduled due to
international fixtures.

WEEK 15
Sat Nov 23 Everton v Liverpool
11.30 pm

Sun Nov 24 Arsenal v Southampton
1.50 am

Sun Nov 24 Fulham v Swansea
1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Nov 24 Hull v Crystal Palace
1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Nov 24 Newcastle v Norwich
1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Nov 24 Stoke v Sunderland
1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Nov 24 West Ham v Chelsea
4.20 am

Mon Nov 25 Man City v Tottenham
12.15 am

Mon Nov 25 Cardiff v Manchester United
2.45 am

Tue Nov 26 West Brom v Aston Villa
6.50 am

International
Nov 19 Australia v Costa Rica
7.30 pm Fox 3

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE - ALL GAMES
FOX 1
Fri Nov 15 Heart v Sydney 7.30 pm
Sat Nov 16 Adelaide v Perth 5.30 pm
Sat Nov 16 Wanderers v Victory 7.30 pm
Sun Nov 17 Jets v Roar 5.00 pm

FOX SPORTS FC
Every Tuesday 8.30 pm

Sunday Shoot Out
Every Sunday 7.00pm

Santo, Sam & Ed's Total Football
Mondays at 7.30pm on FOX Sports 1

SPANISH LA LIGA
No matches scheduled due to inter-
national fixtures.

Nov 24 Almeria v Real Madrid
5.55 am Fox 3

Nov 24 Atletico Madrid v Getafe
7.55 am Fox 3

TV Heaven

Matthew Naqvi

Last week's A-League action continued to highlight the rise of Australian football. Brisbane Roar established themselves as the real contenders this season by defeating Central Coast Mariners at Bluetongue Stadium. A ten-man Sydney FC was too resilient for a persistent Melbourne Victory and took the three points and bragging rights in the Big Blue rivalry.

This week's A-League Friday night game on SBS is between Melbourne Heart and Sydney. Heart still sit on the bottom of the ladder after last week's loss to Western Sydney Wanderers. Once again they played well but missed their goal scoring chances.

Sydney had a determined home win over Victory last week, playing with ten men for over sixty-five minutes. Sydney was reduced to ten men when defender Marc Warren pulled down Connor Pain in a dangerous attacking position just shy of the box. James Troisi was able to convert

the free kick for a goal, equalising the match at 2-all. Sydney was able to reply straight away thanks due some awkward and horrendous defending in the box from marquee Pablo Contreras. The penalty scored by Alessandro Del Piero gave Sydney the lead and they never let go. Great team defending kept Victory out of the game and they deservedly won.

This game will be eventful and even with plenty of shots at goal but I expect a draw.

Another great game this weekend is the clash between Western Sydney Wanderers and Melbourne Victory on Saturday night. Wanderers are coming off a win last week and Victory is returning from a disappointing loss. The Wanderers are a very strong, tactical side that knows how to shut down opposition once they score. Victory on the other hand will be attacking as aggressively as ever. Play close attention to the battle between Socceroos attacking hopefuls James Troisi and Archie Thompson against the defensive unit of Nikolai Topor-Stanley and Mathew Spiranovic. This game will be a joy to watch and I predict a draw between these two great teams.

In international football, the friendly that the nation will be watching carefully between Aus-

tralia and Costa Rica takes place on Tuesday night. Ange Postecoglou will be making his debut as coach of the Socceroos after proving extremely successful in the A-League. Mark Schwarzer's retirement gives Mitch Langerak the best opportunity to make the role as goalkeeper his own. Luke Wilkshire, Brett Holman and Sasha Ognenovski have all missed out on spots while Lucas Neill battling to keep his captaincy and spot in the team. This will be an exciting chance for younger players particularly A-League stars Mark Milligan, Ivan Franjic, Matt McKay and Michael Zullo. This is the perfect scenario for the fringe players to stake their claims on a spot in the World Cup team.

Once the action is all said and done, don't forget to check out the programs that deliver all your football analysis needs. SBS has The A-League Highlights Show and The World Game on Monday night, while Thursday FC thrives with their mix of football news and entertainment on Thursday night. While you are at it, check out Santo, Sam and Ed's Total Football is a great show with plenty of humour on Foxtel.

Enjoy plenty of football action this weekend and hopefully your team wins.



The Socceroos go through their paces at training in preparation for the friendly with Costa Rica. Photos by Loopii

Katsa's Korner

George Katsamboukas

Ange takes the reins

The Big Blue Derby has been run and won, where The Melbourne Victory suffered a 3-2 defeat at the hands of a 10 man Sydney FC.

Worrying signs for newly appointed Melbourne Victory El Supremo, Kevin Muscat, whose team has conceded 5 goals in 2 matches, and is slowly losing its Postecoglou DNA.

Muscat's challenge now is to get things back on track.

Sydney's Seb Ryall must have thought that all of his Christmas' had come at once when a Victory headed clearance whacked him in the mouth, with the ball then deflecting back into the Goals.

If I were him I would have certainly played a few Tatts System7's straight after!

Over to the Socceroos we go, where recently appointed National

Team Coach Ange Postecoglou assembled his squad in Sunny Sydney, in preparation for the upcoming friendly against Costa Rico.

Postecoglou, as with every challenge he has taken up so far, will do everything in his power to ensure that the Socceroos get off to a good start first up under his watch, a good showing and result will keep the critics at bay, and allow him and his players to focus on the next few friendlies, culminating in the World Cup Finals in Brazil.

Something also tells me that he will also be having plenty of one on one discussions with some of the older players, the outcomes will be very interesting indeed, and may have a big bearing as to whether some of these players follow Schwarzer in retiring from International Football.

Term of the week comes from Fox Sports who Quoted The Age's Mike Lynch with the term "Superannuated", which is a description used for a Player that has entered the final phase of his career.

Very interesting phrase indeed, and some A-League Clubs are taking the risk of signing over 30's players, some of which are on some pretty sizeable contracts, the biggest risk is the ability of these older

players to be match fit each week, as with age, they become more injury prone.

Harry Kewell is still struggling to regain fitness which will allow him to return to the Melbourne Heart line up.

Following on from his head collision in Round 1 in the Melbourne Derby, which turned into whiplash, Kewell has now suffered an ankle injury that will sideline him for a few more weeks.

Kewell will no doubt be keen to overcome these injuries and get some match time under his belt, as his aim is to make the Socceroo's Squad for the World Cup Finals, which some would argue is an unrealistic Goal for Kewell, given his lack of match time over the last 12 months, and the appointment of Ange Postecoglou to the Top Gig, who will be looking to blood younger players, as opposed to re using those at the twilight of their careers.

Until next week.

This is Katsa – Just as you have known him

Great Scott

Steven Scott

The oldest association football competition in the world is back in full swing again for another season. The First Round of the FA Cup took place last weekend and there were some surprise results, as is often associated with this competition

After six qualifying rounds which began back in August, the 32 teams that made it through to the First Round of the FA Cup were joined by the 48 teams from League One and League Two of English Football.

The FA Cup has a long tradition of lower-ranked teams becoming "giant-killers" by defeating opponents from higher divisions. Often linked to this giant-killing is the progression of smaller teams through the Cup, to later rounds than they would expect to reach.

Could this year's giant-killers be Conference Premier Club Macclesfield, who smashed League One club Swindon Town FC out of the FA Cup with a 4-0 victory. So bad was the defeat, Swindon Town boss Mark Cooper said his team will cough up to refund travelling fans after the club's humiliating FA Cup defeat at Macclesfield.

Or could it be fellow conference side Tamworth who earn the label of giant-killers? The Lambs recorded a 1-0 victory over League Two club Cheltenham Town at The Lamb Ground in front of their adoring fans.

The second round draw has some really interesting clashes lined up, where the teams will be fighting for the right to potentially face off against a team from either the Premier League or Championship, as clubs from both divisions enter the FA Cup in the Third round.

Conference Premier Side Tamworth has been reward for their First Round victory with a home tie against League One club Bristol City. Fellow Conference Premier Side Macclesfield has been rewarded for its first round victory with the prospect of facing off against either Gillingham or Brackley.

Conference South side Dover Athletic will be facing League One club MK Dons and hoping to keep their run in the Cup going. Fellow Conference South club Boreham Wood could join Dover in the second round if they can get through their 1st Round replay against Carlisle.

Could one of these non league clubs be the first club since Tottenham Hotspur way back in 1901, to win the FA Cup as a non league club. As much as fans of these clubs will dream of it happening the odds are pretty heavily stacked against it happening.

In the history of the FA Cup, only eight teams who were playing outside of the top level of English Football have ever won the competition, the most recent being West Ham United, who won the Cup back in 1980 as a Second Division team.

Anything is possible in this competition though, just ask any Wigan fan! They will tell you dreams really do come true.



Central Coast



0

Brisbane Roar



1

Match Details

Central Coast Mariners 0
Brisbane Roar 1 (Yeboah 89')
Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford
Attendance: 8,303
Referee: Ben Williams

Central Coast Mariners: 2. Daniel MCBREEN, 3. Joshua ROSE, 4. Marcel SEIP, 5. Zachary ANDERSON, 7. John HUTCHINSON (c), 8. Nick MONTGOMERY, 9. Mitchell DUKE, 10. Marcos FLORES (19. Matthew SIMON 77'), 11. Nick FITZGERALD (21. Mile STERJOVSKI 66'), 12. Liam REDDY (gk), 16. Trent SAINSBURY

Substitutes not used: 1. Justin PASFIELD, 6. Brent GRIFFITHS, 17. Anthony CACERES
Yellow cards: Nick FITZGERALD 51'
Red cards: Nil

Brisbane Roar: 1. Michael THEO (gk), 2. Matt SMITH (c), 5. Ivan FRANJIC, 10. HENRIQUE (29. Kwame YEBOAH 87'), 15. James DONACHIE, 17. Matt McKAY, 18. Luke BRATTAN, 19. Jack HINGERT, 22. Thomas BROICH, 23. Dimitri PETRATOS, 26. Corey BROWN

Substitutes not used: 14. Diogo FERREIRA, 20. Matthew ACTON (gk), 27. Devante CLUT, 28. Brandon BORRELLO
Yellow cards: Matt SMITH 59', Matt McKAY 90+3'
Red cards: Nil

A Game of Small Margins

By Adrian Deans

As I noted in my preview, Graham Arnold has been saying the Mariners have deliberately aimed to start slow, physically, in order to build into the season without getting fatigued too early.

I daresay there are benefits to timing your physical peak, but in the meantime it's costing them. I felt that Brisbane won this game through superior fitness in the second half, when the Mariners couldn't find an outlet and were closed down mercilessly by the tireless Brisbane front half led by Henrique, Ivan Franjic and Matt McKay.

For all that, the game went to the wire due to the superbly marshalled Mariners defence and the stunning form of Mariners debutante Liam Reddy, and might even have been won by the Mariners when Josh Rose's deflected tracer bullet hit the outside of the post in the 87th minute. Only two minutes later, Brisbane were celebrating when Kwame Yeboah's pile driver ripped into the roof of Reddy's net – a game of small margins indeed.

Much of the talk pregame was as much about who was missing as who was playing. The Mariners were without young Storm Roux, who has so quickly acquired a mortgage on the right back position vacated by Pedj Bojic that Rick Herbert has selected him for World Cup duty. With Roux on the plane to Mexico was Michael McGlinchey who has become utterly indispensable in the Mariners' midfield. Everything goes through him and he makes the space in which Marcos Flores can operate. With McGlinchey away, Flores didn't get anything like the service he needs to set up the strikers with those slide rule passes into the channels.

Brisbane were missing key players also, notably Berisha and Stefanuto, who has been in excellent form, but neither are so important to the team structure as McGlinchey is to the Mariners and they really missed him – especially when looking for an outlet under pressure.

The first half was a tight contest, probably shaded by the Mariners who made numerous early chances and absolutely should have had a



Room With A View: Matt Simon gets in front to win the aerial contest on this occasion.



Import, No Export? Daniel McBreen returned from a China loan spell but can't crack the Roar.

penalty when James Donachie handled Seip's cross. The linesman was right on top of it and immediately flagged, but Ben Williams chose to ignore him, much to the disgust of the home crowd who are notoriously reasonable in their penalty claims.

Soon after, Henrique might also have had a penalty after a bit of a tangle with Zac Anderson. You see them given, but Williams would have needed a police escort if he'd given a 50/50 to Brisbane after denying a rusted on, stone-waller for the locals.

Finally, something needs to be said about the performance of Liam Reddy. I was dismayed to learn that Justin Pasfield had been dropped after one mistake too many. He has long been understudy to Mat Ryan, and just as he looked like he was staking a claim for a long term number one spot, he's dropped the ball. I honestly felt that his performances justified a little indulgence from Arnie, as possibly it was insecurity that made him lose concentration in a couple of costly errors. Also, when the only alternative is someone who has been famously fragile under pressure, you'd think Pasfield might have had at least one more chance to win Arnie's confidence.

But as he so frequently does, Arnie got the goalkeeper selection absolutely right. Reddy had to dive away from his goal to cut out a low cross in the early minutes – one of the hardest things to get right in goals – and that did wonders for his confidence. He went on to have a blinder – only once looking dodgy when he slipped instead of closing down Henrique, who was about to be one on one until the danger was cleared by the impeccable Sainsbury. But just as I commented to my companions that Reddy had bottled that moment, he pulled off the most incredible point blank save from Dimi Petratos – definitely the save of the season so far, and one which will be hard to beat.

But one match does not a season make. It will be interesting to see whether Reddy has truly turned the corner and can hold the position all year.

Adrian Deans is the author of Mr Cleansheets and more recently Straight Jacket – published by High Horse Books and available in all good book stores. www.adriandean.com



		
21	Tackles	22
8	Total Shots	12
397	Total Passes	702
33.2%	Possession	66.8%
1	Corners	5
2	Offsides	1
12	Fouls committed	9

Man of the Match
Liam Reddy (Mariners)

Supersub: The Roar celebrate substitute Kwame Yeboah's late winner, two minutes after coming on the pitch, to secure maximum points at Bluetongue Stadium and stun the champs.



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Sydney FC



3



Melbourne Victory



2

Match Details

Sydney FC 3 (Richard GARCIA 3', Sebastian RYALL 15', Alessandro DEL PIERO 35')

Melbourne Victory 2 (Archie THOMPSON 17', James TROISI 25')

Allianz Stadium
Crowd: 18, 784
Referee: Peter GREEN

Sydney FC: 20. Vedran JANJETOVIC(GK), 2. Sebastian RYALL, 3. Mark WARREN, 6. Nikola PETKOVIC, 7. Brett EMERTON, 10. Alessandro DEL PIERO(16. Joel CHIANESE 89'), 11. Richard GARCIA (27. Chris NAUMOFF 82'), 13. Tiago CALVANO, 19. Nick CARLE, 22. Ali ABBAS, 29. Matthew THOMPSON (8. Predrag BOJIC 74').

Subs not used: 1. Ivan NECEVSK(GK), 21. Yairo YAU.

Yellow Cards: Nikola PETKOVIC 45'
Red Card: Marc Warren 25'

Melbourne VICTORY: 1. Nathan COE(GK), 2. Pablo CONTRERAS, 3. Adama TRAORE, 5. Mark MILLIGAN, 6. Leigh BROXHAM (7. Guilherme FINKLER 70'), 10. Archie THOMPSON, 11. Connor PAIN (13. Andrew NABBOUT 70'), 14. James TROISI, 15. Mitch NICHOLLS, 23. Adrian LEIJER, 25. Jason GERIA.

Subs not used: 16. Rashid MAHAZI, 20. Lawrence THOMAS, 24. Scott GALLOWAY.

Yellow Cards: Adama TRAORE 34', Pablo CONTRERAS 35', Leigh BROXHAM 45', Jason GERIA 70'

Gutsy SFC Claim Victory In Big Blue

By Bryson Ferreira

If Sydney FC go on to have the successful season we all know they are capable of, they will look back on Saturdays dramatic 3-2 win over Melbourne Victory as the turning point of their season.

Since their win against Newcastle in week one, the Sky Blues hadn't scored a goal, let alone won another game, and with every loss over the past three weeks the pressure had been mounting on head coach, Frank Farina.

That pressure was finally lifted [at least for another week] on Saturday night, in another classic 'Big Blue' clash with their original rivals, Melbourne Victory.

The Sky Blues took a two-goal lead with fifteen minutes played thanks to an opportunistic finish from Richard Garcia, and a bizarre deflected goal by Seb Ryall that left the defender with a chipped tooth.

Garcia latched onto a loose header from Mitch Nicholls following a long kick from Janjetovic to go clear of the Victory defence, before rounding Victory keeper Nathan Coe to slot home.

Ryall's goal came from a set piece, when a clearing header from a corner smashed straight into the defender's face and then fortuitously into the back of the net.

The Victory then scored twice in quick succession to level the scoreline through a well-worked Archie Thompson goal, and a James Troisi penalty that left the Sky Blues down to 10 men.

With struggling defender Marc Warren on his way down the tunnel, Sydney FC were lucky they weren't reduced to 9.

Brazilian defender Thiago Calvano seemingly knocked the referees red card out of his hand, in a moment of madness that, given similar incidents in the past, could see him miss many weeks to come.

From that point on, the general consensus was just how many goals were the Victory going to put past a 10 man Sydney team, that hadn't had a clean sheet since week one.

In keeping with the drama that is 'Big Blue' tradition however, it was Sydney FC who scored a crucial third goal against all the odds.

A scramble from a free kick saw Brett Emerton float a cross back into the box, where Del Piero was fouled by Contreras in the challenge for the header.

The Sydney FC captain then stepped up from the spot and guided the ball home into the bottom left corner to send the Sky Blues into a half time lead, that proved to be enough to take the three points.

With the extra man, Melbourne began carving out opportunities in the second half, but found a surprisingly resilient Sydney FC defence and goalkeeper Vedran Janjetovic in their way.

Still, the general feeling in the stadium was when, and from where, were Melbourne's goals coming from?

With every minute that ticked past however, the confidence seemed to grow among the 10 men in sky blue, despite the chances that kept presenting themselves for the Victory.

Kevin Muscat's men will be ruining the chances they missed throughout the second half, but to Sydney's credit, they ran themselves into the ground to nullify the numerical disadvantage, with Nicola Petkovic a tower of strength at the back.

The Sky Blues performance certainly wasn't one of the prettiest they've ever had, and on another day the result may have swung the other way.

If you ask anyone in the Cove however, if they preferred watching their team play well and dominate the Glory and go down 1-0, or watch them fight and scrap for a win, in a game were most purists would have turned away, most would settle for the latter.

Many of the problems the team has experienced of the past month certainly haven't been resolved after the weekend's result, but sometimes there's nothing more valuable than getting a gutsy, unlikely win on the board, particularly against an arch rival.

Sydney FC now need to build on this courageous result against Melbourne Heart on Friday night at AAMI park, before retuning home against Wellington Phoenix, a team who have also had a slow start to the year.

The next two weeks will be crucial in determining whether or not Saturday's victory has instilled a new sense of confidence at Sydney FC, as well as the legitimacy of the club's title charge.



Get Jeffed: Alessandro Del Piero makes no mistake from the spot to clinch maximum points for SFC in the Big Blue Derby, and caps it off with silverware presented by Jeff Kennet.





Heart Line Up

- 1.Andrew REDMAYNE (GK)
2.Jeremy WALKER
3.Robbie WIELAERT
5.Sam MITCHINSON
6.Patrick GERHARDT
7.Iain RAMSAY
8.Massimo MURDOCCA
11.Michael MIFSUD
14.Golgol MEBRAHTU
15.David WILLIAMS
16.Aziz BEHICH
18.David VRANKOVIC
19.Benjamin GARUCCIO
20.Tando VELAPHI (GK)
21.Stefan MAUK
22.Nick KALMAR
23.Mate DUGANDZIC
25.Andrea MIGLIORINI
Two to be omitted

Ins: 5.Sam MITCHINSON (pro-moted), 19.Benjamin GARUCCIO (promoted)
Outs: Nil
Unavailable: 4.Orlando ENGELAAR (Fractured tibia – long-term), 9.Dylan MACALLISTER (Ham-string – 3-5 weeks), 10.Harry Kewell (ankle – 2 weeks), 13.Jonatan GERMANO (Hamstring – 3 weeks), 17.Jason HOFFMAN (groin – 1-2 weeks) 24.Patrick KISNORBO (knee – 2 weeks),

Melbourne Heart v Sydney FC

Fri Nov 15 AAMI Park 7:30 PM

Heart Prepare For ADP Visit

Adrian Houghton

A winless Melbourne Heart will host a Sydney FC outfit buoyed by their gritty 3-2 victory over arch rivals Melbourne Victory last weekend.

John Aloisi's men have lost three consecutive matches, but by no means have they been disgraced in any of their defeats.

Perth Glory's narrow 1-0 victory over the Heart was hardly convincing and away to Brisbane Roar the Red and White were vibrant and created numerous chances, only to lack that killer instinct required to gain a result.

It was a similar story for the Heart last round, when a Western Sydney Wanderers goal against the run of play ultimately condemned them to a fruitless outing at AAMI Park.

After the final whistle last Friday night you could see how much the players were reeling from their efforts.

Left-back Aziz Behich in particular was one player that looked devastated by their somewhat unlucky patch of form.

However, the defender said during the week that the group is confident of turning it around once they get that goal which has deserted in recent times.



Another team who appeared to be under extreme pressure before Round 5 was the Sky Blues.

Talk of a potential Frank Farina sacking accompanied the team's in-different run of form.

However, a resolute and disciplined display, after being reduced to 10 men against the Victory, could be the catalyst needed to change their inconsistent fortunes thus far.

Alessandro Del Piero made a welcome return to the team last weekend, and converted a match-winning penalty, following needless contact from Pablo Contreras on the Italian veteran.

As for the Heart's marquee man, Harry Kewell, the game comes too

soon who will miss at least another week with an ankle injury.

Defensive midfielder Andrea Migliorini was a late withdrawal from the team last week and will need to pass a late fitness to determine his availability.

As for Sydney, Farina has some defensive issues to address with left-back Marc Warren serving the first week of his mandatory two-week suspension for a red card dismissal against the Victory.

While teammate Tiago Calvano has received a two-match ban after being found guilty of assault on Archie Thompson, and faces further disciplinary action after making contact with a referee.

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Heart 2.25 Draw 3.50 Sydney FC 3.20	Played 9 Heart 3 Sydney FC 1 Drawn 5
Referee: Alan Milliner	

Radio Broadcast: 774 ABC Melbourne, ABC Local Radio Victoria, 702 ABC Sydney, ABC Local Radio NSW, Grandstand Digital and Online/Mobile phone app. SBS Radio

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #MHTvSYD

Kiss of Death Heart 2-0 Heart

The Heart have played some attractive football at times this season, but a mixture of wastefulness and bad luck in front of goal has cost them dearly.

Unfortunately for the Red and White it's a results business, and a win is imperative to get the club's season up and running.

Although Sydney FC have two victories from their opening five matches, they do have the worst defensive record in the competition - conceded the most goals (9) in the division.

With the Heart's knack for creating chances and the Sky Blues' weak defending the dynamic trio of David Williams, Golgol Mebrahtu and Michael Mifsud could profit.

However, it will all depend on the



Sydney FC Line Up

- 2.Seb RYALL
5.Matt JURMAN
6.Nikola PETKOVIC
7.Brett EMERTON
8.Pedj BOJIC
10.Alessandro DEL PIERO (c)
11.Richard GARCIA
14.Mitch MALLIA
15.Terry McFLYNN
16.Joel CHIANESE
19.Nicky CARLE
20.Vedran JANJETOVIC (GK)
21.Yairo YAU
22.Ali ABBAS
27.Chris NAUMOFF
29.Alec UROSEVSKI
30.Anthony BOUZANIS (GK)
34.Aaron CALVER.
Two to be omitted

Ins: 5.Matt JURMAN (promoted), 14.Mitch MALLIA (promoted), 15.Terry McFLYNN (promoted), 29.Alec UROSEVSKI (promoted) 30.Anthony Bouzanis (GK) (promoted), 34.Aaron CALVER (promoted).
Outs: 1.Ivan NECEVSKI (illness - 1 week), 3.Marc WARREN (suspension - 1 week), 13.Tiago CALVANO (suspension – 2 weeks), 28.Matt THOMPSON.

Unavailable: Rhyan GRANT (knee – indefinite), Peter TRIANTIS (groin - indefinite), Terry ANTONIS (thigh - indefinite), Corey GAMEIRO (knee – 2-4 weeks)



Glory Line Up

- 1.Daniel VUKOVIC (GK)
2.Jack CLISBY
3.Brandon O'NEILL
4.Ryan EDWARDS
5.Steve PANTELIDIS
6.Cameron EDWARDS
7.Jacob BURNS (c)
8.Ryo NAGAI
10.Jamie MACLAREN
14.Steven MCGARRY
16.Sidnei SCIOLA MORAES
17.Chris HAROLD
18.Jack DUNCAN
21.Scott JAMIESON
23.Michael THWAITE
24.Matthew DAVIES
36.William GALLAS
One to be omitted

Ins: 17.Chris HAROLD, 36.William GALLAS

Outs: 9.Shane SMELTZ (International Duty – 1 week)

Unavailable: Nil

Perth Glory v Adelaide United

Sat Nov 16 nib Stadium 5:30 PM

Reds look to spoil Gallas' debut

Peter Simcox

Perth Glory will look to continue their unbeaten home record this season when they entertain Adelaide United at nib Stadium on Saturday, with new marquee signing William Gallas ready for action. The former Arsenal, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur defender passed a medical on Monday and will be part of the game, as the fourth placed Glory look to continue their good start to the A-League season.

Glory coach Alistair Edwards will have a selection headache for the clash, fitting the Frenchman into an in-form defensive line up, who have only conceded four goals this season. On Saturday, teenager Matt Davies combined well with Scott Jamieson, Michael Thwaite and Steve Pantelidis in front of Danny Vukovic to shut down Wellington Phoenix to earn a 1-1 draw, but Gallas is only going to strengthen the already strong defensive unit they have. Edwards admitted he has been happy with the work at the back this season, and to drop one will be difficult. "Yes it's going to be difficult, but everyone knows that if we want to compete at the top level in the A-League we have to have a very strong squad," he said.

"We just can't rely on 11 players



only for the whole season. We're deliberately making sure we've got a large number of players we can bring into the first team.

"We've got a very good structure, but not only that - we've got Jacob Burns and Steve McGarry who control things in the midfield."

In team news Young Socceroos striker Jamie MacLaren will come in to contention with New Zealand international Shane Smeltz away with the All Whites for the World Cup qualifier with Mexico, while Daniel De Silva will miss another week after injuring an ankle at training.

Adelaide beat the Glory 3-1 in the

opening game of the season but it's gone downhill since then, and they are currently on a three game losing streak. Last week they were defeated 2-1 by the Newcastle Jets, and also had central defender Nigel Boogaard sent off for a late tackle on Jets English striker Emile Heskey, and he will miss the Glory clash. But on a brighter note they will retain the services of defender Cassio, and striker Bruce Djite for the trip west and the Brazilian is happy to back. He returned last week, coming off the bench after a quad tendon injury sidelined him for the pre-season. "It felt great. For me it was like playing my first

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Glory 1.92 Draw 3.75 Adelaide 4.42	Played 25 Glory 8 Adelaide 12 Drawn 5
Referee: Shaun Evans	

Radio Broadcast: 720 ABC Perth, ABC Local Radio WA, 891 ABC Adelaide, ABC Local Radio South Australia, Grandstand Digital Perth and Online/Mobile phone app. Sport FM (Perth)

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #PERvADL

Kiss of Death Glory 1-2 Adelaide

game as a professional," Cassio said.

"I feel good now. The last four months for me wasn't easy but I've been training hard and I'm ready to go.

"If the coach opts to play me this weekend I'll be ready and I'll do my best for the club to try and win the game."

The Reds scored late to earn a point in a 1-1 draw the last time they travelled to WA, Adrian Zahra gave the Glory the lead but Jake Barker-Daish levelled in the last minute, and Adelaide Coach Josep Gombau will be looking to go one better on Saturday.



Adelaide Utd Line Up

- 1.Eugene GALEKOVIC (GK) (c)
4.Jon McKAIN
5.Osama MALIK
6.CASSIO
7.JERONIMO
8.ISAIAS
9.Sergio CIRIO
10.Marcelo CARRUSCA
11.Bruce DJITE
12.Antony GOLEC
13.Steven LUSTICA
15.Jacob MELLING
17.Awer MABIL
19.Jake BARKER-DAISH
20.Paul IZZO (GK)
21.Tarek ELRICH
22.Fabio FERREIRA
23.Jordan ELSEY
Two to be omitted

Ins: 12.Antony GOLEC, 15.Jacob MELLING, 19.Jake BARKER-DAISH, 23.Jordan ELSEY (all promoted)

Outs: 3.Nigel BOOGAARD (suspended – 1 game), 18.Michael ZULLO (International duty – 1 week)

Unavailable: 14.Cameron WATSON (suspended – 1 game), 16.Daniel BOWLES (ankle – 4 weeks)

A new novel by GW's Adrian Deans

Adrian Deans does for Sydney's leafy fringes what Irvine Welsh does for Edinburgh's council estates. Straight Jacket is a ripshorter of a ride through the dark heart of the burbs and may just be Australia's answer to American Psycho.

Kirsten Krauth, just_a_girl

Sometimes funny, sometimes disturbing, and always compelling. With a super original premise and a one-of-a-kind protagonist, Deans' entertaining follow up to Mr Cleansheets delivers on every level.

Tony Wilson, Making News

A disturbingly good read. Unnerving and darkly comic.
Stuart Quin, Ealing Studios Australia



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STRAIGHT JACKET



ADRIAN DEANS

Adrian Deans does for Sydney's leafy fringes what Irvine Welsh does for Edinburgh's council estates.



Wanderers Line Up

- 1. Ante COVIC (GK)
- 2. Shannon COLE
- 3. Adam D'APUZZO
- 4. Nikolai TOPOR-STANLEY
- 5. Michael BEAUCHAMP (c)
- 6. Jerome POLENZ
- 7. Labinot HALITI
- 8. Mateo POLJAK
- 10. Aaron MOOY
- 11. Brendon SANTALAB
- 12. Tahj MINNIECON
- 13. Matthew SPIRANOVIC
- 18. Iacopo LA ROCCA
- 19. Mark BRIDGE
- 20. Jerrad TYSON (GK)
- 21. Shinji ONO
- 22. Dean Heffernan
- 23. Jason TRIFIRO

****Two to be omitted****
Ins: 23. Jason TRIFIRO (promoted),
Dean Heffernan (promoted),
5. Michael Beauchamp (promoted)

Outs: Tomi Juric (knee)

Unavailable: 17. Youssouf HERSI (foot)

West Syd Wanderers v Melb Victory

Sat Nov 16 Parramatta Stdm 7:30 PM

Goal: Defeat the only undefeated

Saman Zaiei

With only one team coming into round six undefeated the task of the new coach Kevin Muscat will be nothing short of wanting to defeat the Wanderers to take all three points, seeing them creep higher up the ladder at Pirtek stadium. Needless to say, this will be no easy task.

Despite last week's game against Melbourne Heart, the home side, which many said should have won the game as they played some beautiful football, went down 1-0 to hosts Western Sydney Wanderers. Victory, who are only one spot below Western Sydney, will be able to showcase, away from home, their talent upfront and the adjustments they have to make after last weeks disappointing game, losing to a ten man Sydney FC. Kevin Muscat will have a lot to make up for and his team will surely come out attacking from the get go.

Many Wanderers fans will be contemplating the how their team will play. Will they keep their usual formation, or play a more defence game relying more on the counter attacking ability they have through Santalab and Bridge? Will we see some of the younger stars like Apiah Kubi and Perkatis get some game time? Is the time right for Minniecon to join the starting line up after performing so well in the round four fixture? Victory fans will have similar questions, but mainly looking at Archie Thompson, the man who is too dangerous for any opponent considering he does not rely on having the support of his fans at home and can finish in any setting.



Statistically speaking, Wanderers are looking like the stronger team this season, but of course we are only five rounds in and anything can happen. In their last five games, Western Sydney have conceded three goals compared to Victory's seven, last week's game playing a big role in that happening. Both have kept two clean sheets, and although Victory have scored one more goal than their opponent Western Sydney have

not lost any games. Victory do have a slightly higher conversion rate in goals, by only 1.3%, but this could be enough to see them take all three points in Sydney. Without a doubt, Victory's ability to find their team mates has stood out in the past few weeks and this is highlighted when compared to Western Sydney, Victory have completed 2,027 successful passes compared to Wanderers 1,273 that is 82.8% for Melbourne and 74.8% for Melbourne. If the visitors can get an early goal, this can be a strength that they can take into this fixture to see them hold possession of the ball, making it difficult for the home side to create chances, an ability we have all seen they

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Wanderers 1.73 Draw 3.75 Victory 5.00	Played 3 Wanderers 1 Victory 2 Drawn 0

Referee: Kris Griffiths-Jones

Radio Broadcast: 702 ABC Sydney, ABC Local Radio NSW, 666 ABC Canberra , 774 ABC Melbourne, ABC Local Radio Victoria Grandstand Digital and Online/ Mobile phone app. 2GLF (Sydney)

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #WSWvMVC

Kiss of Death Wanderers 1- 1 Victory

are capable of. Finally, neither side has seen red, which will hopefully continue into this round as well.

So with a starving Melbourne side and an even hungrier Western Sydney this fixture will be anyone's game leaving it hard to predict. Considering that Victory have been able to score against the Wanderers in all three of their last meetings and in all previous weeks save the first round, one can only rightfully assume that they will get atleast one against the Wanderers. On the same token, Western Sydney although having missed so many easy opportunities, have scored in all five rounds, Tomi Juric proving to be effective in providing the final touch. My last prediction was against Western Sydney and I was very wrong, so this time, I will have to say it will be a score draw 2-2. A score both teams will be happy with and overall performance that both coaches will be proud of.



Victory Line Up

- 1. Nathan COE (GK)
- 2. Pablo CONTRERAS
- 3. Adama TRAORE
- 4. Nick ANSELL
- 6. Leigh BROXHAM
- 7. Gui FINKLER
- 10. Archie THOMPSON
- 11. Connor PAIN
- 13. Andrew NABBOUT
- 14. James TROISI
- 15. Mitch NICHOLS
- 16. Rashid MAHAZI
- 17. Jimmy JEGGO
- 20. Lawrence THOMAS (GK)
- 22. Jesse MAKAROUNAS
- 23. Adrian LEIJER
- 24. Scott GALLOWAY
- 25. Jason GERIA

*****Two to be omitted*****
Ins: 17. Jimmy JEGGO, 4. Nick ANSELL, 22. Jesse MAKAROUNAS (all promoted)

Outs: 5. Mark MILLIGAN (international duty – 1 week)

Unavailable: 9. Kosta BARBAROUSES (international duty – 1 week)



Jets Line Up

- 1. Mark BIRIGHITTI (GK)
- 2. Scott NEVILLE
- 3. Taylor REGAN
- 4. Kew JALIENS
- 5. Ben KANTAROVSKI
- 7. Andrew HOOLE
- 8. Ruben ZADKOVICH (c)
- 9. Emile HESKEY
- 10. Nathan BURNS
- 11. Craig GOODWIN
- 12. Connor CHAPMAN
- 15. Josh BRILLANTE
- 16. Jacob PEPPER
- 18. James BROWN
- 19. Michael BRIDGES
- 20. Ben KENNEDY (gk)
- 21. Sam GALLAWAY
- 22. Adam TAGGART

****Two to be omitted****
Ins: Craig Goodwin (promoted),
Taylor REGAN (promoted)
Outs: Nil
Unavailable: Mitch COOPER (knee – 2 weeks)

Newcastle Jets v Brisbane Roar

Sun Nov 17 Hunter Stadium 5:00 PM

Jets to Silence InForm Roar

Shaun Dyas

The Newcastle Jets face Brisbane Roar this Sunday afternoon in what is shaping up to be one of the more exciting games so far this A-League season.

The Jets appeared to delay their take off this season, with the team struggling for cohesion and attacking thrust in the early stages of the season.

Luckily for them and their under fire manager Gary Van Egmond, they appear to have turned the corner.

Newcastle are now unbeaten in four matches, including their first victory of the season away to Adelaide last round.

That 2-1 victory was justification for improved showings in the previous draws against Wellington and Central Coast, with the Jets in truth desperately unlucky not to defeat their arch rivals.

This week we get to see just how far Gary Van Egmond's team have come with the ladder leading Roar coming to town.

Brisbane were arguably the form team in the pre-season and they have carried that form into the season proper, coming off a last start 1-0 win away against last season's champions the Mariners.

Brisbane's free-flowing and attacking brand of football seems to be back in full swing and it will be



a challenge for the Jets to counter-act it.

It would not surprise to see the Jets take on a more conservative approach even though they are the home team on Sunday.

Brisbane love to circulate the ball throughout against all opponents, allowing their fullbacks to bomb forward and join the attacks at every opportunity.

Newcastle could use the pace and trickery of Nathan Burns and Andrew Hoole in these wide areas to exploit the space afforded by an approach that can be described as

cavalier.

To exploit these areas, Newcastle will need to win their fair share of the battles in midfield, an area that is expertly marshalled by diminutive Brisbane midfielder Luke Brattan.

Brattan does not get the same amount of credit as some of his more illustrious team-mates, including the likes of Thomas Broich and Matt McKay.

With McKay away on Socceroos duty, this could well be the week where Brattan finally earns his

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Jets 3.20 Draw 3.40 Roar 2.22	Played 25 Jets 9 Roar 9 Drawn 7

Referee: Matthew Gillett

Radio Broadcast: 1233 ABC Newcastle, 612 ABC Brisbane, ABC Local Radio Queensland, Grandstand Digital Online/Mobile phone app.

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #NEWvBRI

Kiss of Death Jets 1-1 Roar

share of the limelight.

The trio of Ben Kantarovski, Ruben Zadkovich and Josh Brillante will be crucial in curbing the influence of Brattan and company.

It is no coincidence that Newcastle's fortunes have turned since this midfield trio have started playing together. The second goal against Adelaide was the result of hard work and controlled pressing from this trio.

Van Egmond may also try to stunt the performance of Mike Mulvey's Roar side by flooding midfield. I would not be surprised if the Jets go away from the 4-3-3 they have used in the past couple of weeks and revert to a slightly more defensive 4-2-3-1.

Newcastle will be looking to extend their unbeaten streak when the Roar come calling and I feel that they will, but I can't see them getting the full share of the spoils.



Roar Line Up

- 1. Michael THEO (gk)
- 2. Matthew SMITH (c)
- 10. HENRIQUE
- 13. Jade NORTH
- 14. Diogo FERREIRA
- 15. James DONACHIE
- 18. Luke BRATTAN
- 19. Jack HINGERT
- 29. Matthew ACTON (gk)
- 22. Thomas BROICH
- 23. Dimitri PETRATOS
- 26. Corey BROWN
- 27. Devante CLUT
- 28. Brandon BORRELLO
- 29. Kwame YEMBOAH
- Lachlan JACKSON
- Patrick THEODORE
- Ben LITFIN

*****Two to be omitted*****
In: Jade NORTH (returns from injury), Lachlan JACKSON (promoted), Patrick THEODORE (promoted), Ben LITFIN (promoted)

Out: Ivan FRANJIC (International duty – 1 week), Matt McKay (International duty – 1 week)
Unavailable: Shane STEFANUTTO (hamstring – one week), Besart BERISHA (hamstring – one week), Liam MILLER (calf – one week), George LAMBADARDIS (knee - season)

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Tickets from ticketmaster.com.au

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Short Passes

SMFC to screen Greece vs Romania World Cup Qualifier at Beachcomber Cafe

South Melbourne FC is excited to announce that it has organised, in conjunction with Ch33/FOS Group Australia, a live and exclusive broadcast of the World Cup play off between Greece and Romania.

Beachcomber Cafe will be the only venue in Melbourne to screen both legs of this World Cup play off.

Both nations finished second in their respective qualifying groups. Greece will be hoping to qualify for its second successive World Cup appearance, while Romania will be seeking qualification for the first time since 1998.

Entry for each match is \$20.

Beachcomber Cafe will be open from 6.00am on both mornings.

Broadcast details for both matches are listed below:

First leg - Athens
Saturday 16th November
Kick-off 6.45am

Second Leg - Bucharest
Wednesday 20th November
Kick off 6.45am

Beachcomber Cafe is located at 10-18 Jacka Boulevard, St Kilda Baths.

Round 6: ASK THE EXPERTS

THE VERDICT Heart - 8 Sydney FC - 2 - Draw - 5 Glory - 9 Adelaide - 1 Draw - 5 Wanderers - 10 Victory - 2 Draw - 3 Jets - 4 Roar - 7 Draw - 4 Mariners - 13 Phoenix - 0 Draw - 2

Santo Cilauro 12

Draw
Draw
WSW
Jets
CCM



Last week: 0

Working Dog Productions

George Donikian 11

Heart
Draw
Wanderers
Roar
Mariners



Last week: 2

Media Mogul

George Calombaris 14

Heart
Perth
Victory
Roar
Mariners



Last week: 2

No.1 Victory ticket holder

Eddie Krncevic 11

Heart
Glory
Draw
Draw
Mariners



Last week:0

Former Socceroo

John Perin 12

Draw
Draw
Draw
Brisbane
CCM



Last week: 1

Hall of Fame Socceroo

Andy Harper 10

Heart
Glory
Wanderers
Jets
Mariners



Last week: 1

NSL Champ / Fox Sports

Ross Alatsas 13

Heart
Glory
Wanderers
Jets
Mariners



Last week: 1

GM Greek Media Group

Jimmy Campbell 13

Heart
Glory
Draw
Roar
Draw



Last week: 2

Former Socceroo

George Campbell 13

Draw
Perth Glory
Wanderers
Roar
Draw



Last week: 3

Sth Melb & NSL Legend

Jimmy Rooney 07

Draw
Glory
Victory
Draw
Mariners



Last week: 0

World Cup '74 Socceroo

Roger Sleeman 13

Heart
Draw
Wanderers
Draw
Mariners



Last week: 3

Reigning Tipping Champ

John Doyle 09

Draw
Glory
Wanderers
Newcastle
Mariners



Last week: 1

Original Captain Socceroo

Peter Katholos 11

Sydney FC
Draw
Wanderers
Draw
Mariners



Last week: 0

Former Socceroo

Steve Blair 10

Sydney
Glory
Wanderers
Roar
Mariners



Last week: 0

Former Socceroo

Kiss Of Death 10

Heart
Adelaide
Wanderers
Jets
Mariners



Last week: 1

GW Contributors

The PFA Column



By Adam Vivian

PFA Footballer of the Year Winners

The 2012/2013 season was one of outstanding quality with A-League and W-League footballers lighting-up the local competitions and overseas based Australians starring in leagues around the world.

On Wednesday evening Professional Footballers Australia recognised their efforts announcing the 2013 winners of the PFA Footballer of the Year, PFA Women's Player of the Year and the PFA Harry Kewell Medal.

Drawn from footballers playing in six different countries the 14 male nominees were selected by the PFA Awards Committee, which is made up of former Socceroo and NSL greats, and leading figures in the Australian football media.

The shortlist was then voted on by over 250 professional footballers in Australia and overseas to determine the winners.

The PFA Women's Footballer of the Year was determined by a vote put directly to all female PFA members on a 3-2-1 basis.

This years winners are once again footballers of the highest quality, who have contributed hugely to their respective clubs and National teams.

Following in the footsteps of previous winners Tim Cahill, Mark Schwarzer, Matt McKay and Brett Holman the 2013 PFA Footballer of the Year is Robbie Kruse.

Robbie is the youngest ever winner of the prestigious award after beating of stiff competition from second place Mile Jedinak and third placed Daniel McBreen.

A brilliant 2012/2013 season saw Robbie star for Fortuna Dusseldorf in the Bundesliga.

His form for Fortuna and the Socceroos, where he played a key role in qualification for a third consecutive FIFA World-Cup, saw him earn a transfer to Champions League club Bayer Le-

verkusen.

Like Robbie the PFA Women's Footballer of the Year winner has also starred for club and country.

Instrumental in Sydney FC's W-League Grand Final win the 2013 PFA Women's Footballer of the Year is Samantha Kerr.

Samantha enjoyed an outstanding season for the Sky Blues with her form seeing her sign with Western New York Flash for the inaugural National Women's Soccer League season.

Edging out the joint second Brianna Davey and Stephanie Catley to win the award Samantha is the fourth recipient after Servet Uzunlar, Elise Kellond-Knight and Lydia Williams.

A star of the 2012/2013 A-League season for the Melbourne Victory Marco Rojas was awarded the PFA Harry Kewell Medal as the most outstanding player under 23 either playing in the A-League or Australian based overseas.

Marco's performances in the A-League saw him catch the eye of clubs all over the world before eventually signing with Bundesliga club VfB Stuttgart.

The 22-year-old finished ahead of the second place Tom Rogic and third place Trent Sainsbury to follow in the footsteps of previous winners Nikita Rukavytsya, Mitch Langerak, Robbie Kruse and Matt Ryan.

The winners should all be extremely proud of their achievements as the recognition of your peers is the highest praise you can receive as a footballer.

These footballers highlight the huge contribution players have made to the continued growth and development of Australian football.

Adam Vivian is the PFA's General Manager.



Photo by Loopii

Robbie Kruse



GOAL!
WEEKLY

ALESSANDRO PIERO

SYDNEY FC

PHOTO: GEOFF JONES / GRAPHICS: ANITA MILAS

TWEETS OF THE WEEK



Compiled by Roy Skillen

We all know that England is not known for its rampant sunshine. In fact, the sun shows its face so rarely in the UK that fans at the recent EPL game involving Everton simply weren't prepared when the big yellow thing appeared from behind the clouds to light up the stadium. Well all except one smart cookie, can you spot him?



Cristiano Ronaldo notched up his 23rd hat trick in Real Madrid colours over the weekend. It was another sublime display from the Portuguese wizard, who is fast becoming one of the most popular players in the game. Who would have thought that after a history of insipid play-acting and an ego bigger than Shane Warne's had made him the one player everybody loved to hate.



We have talked a lot this season about the passion that has been seen through out the crowds in the A-League. Western Sydney, Melbourne Victory even Newcastle have cemented a hardcore set of fans that live and die for their club. But it seems that Melbourne's other team are struggling to find their niche.

Les Street@official_lesdog

8 Nov

The crowd look like cardboard cutouts. No animation. Nothing. #MHTvWSW

Vince Rugari@VinceRugari

8 Nov

Melbourne Heart, the club with no soul, everybody #MHTvWSW #showmesomething #react

The atmosphere was so damp at AAMI Park for the Melbourne Heart against Western Sydney that Heart shot stopper Redmayne needed a kick in the head to wake him up.



There's along way to go before see scenes like this happening on the Yarra.

Football Funnys@FootballFunnys

11h

Galatasaray fans on the way to the Istanbul derby today! pic.twitter.com/iwB88KJSS5



There was a lot of early season talk about Adelaide Utd's Barcelona experiment and all looked good with a comfortable win on the opening day. The wheels have since fallen off a little and many fans are becoming a little sick of their antics with star striker Jeronimo coping most of it.

Matt Wright@MisfitWanderer

9 Nov

Jeronimo. No one is buying your diving bullshit anymore. Give it up and play football FFS #ADLvNEW #foxfootball

There were some great moments over this weeks set of fixtures. Some comical defending from Sydney FC and Melbourne Victory resulted in Kevin Muscat losing his first ever game as a head coach, 3-2. While youngster, Kwame Yeboah, smashed his way in to the headlines with an 89th minute strike that gave Brisbane Roar all three points against The Central Coast.

mike hallett@mikehallett55

10 Nov

@kwameAyeboah Did you go the the 'Marco Van Basten School of finishing'? #Thunderbolt #Wow #BrokeTheNet #CCMvBNE

Now most people know that I love a bit of the B-League. It's one of those TV shows that is so bad its actually fun, but even I was left a little confused by this sketch

FOX SPORTS Football@FOXFOOTBALL

10 Nov

B League boys interpretive dance to Andy Harpers commentary. #Fox-football pic.twitter.com/6iDs15PNSY



Oh yeah and this guy played Charlie in the camp 1970's version of Charlie And The Chocolate Factory.



#CLASS



Boo's World

Mark Boric

The main talking point in football this week was Saturday's Big Blue. I am talking about the game in which Sydney FC defeated Melbourne Victory 3-2 and not the activities which took place at the Bat and Ball Hotel shortly after.

There were plenty of talking points, from Alessandro Del Piero's struggle the remain upright, to Marc Warren's red card and the penalty given away by Pablo Contreras and the fine work of Elbows Tiago and several other points in between.

Marc Warren has quickly risen to the top of the list of worst ever A-League players in the eyes of many fans (hope he's avoiding forums and social media) and didn't do anything to alter that perception with an early dismissal.

When Seb Ryall scored after the ball smashed into his face, it was almost time for Fox to move the game onto the Comedy Channel. By the way, is Seb dating girls who have outgrown the Cartoon Network yet?

It was a rousing finish to the triple header after Phoenix, Glory, the Reds and the Jets had tried their best to put viewers to sleep. Football marathons like that are sometimes endured rather than enjoyed, especially with a large variety of maybe three different ads on rotation. People will be over Ange before that Costa Rica game has kicked-off the way they are going.

Another bad week for Melbourne Heart. After denying rumours that Harry Kewell's heart wasn't in it anymore and declaring he would be back for the Wanderers game, he rolled his ankle the next

day. Without him the side couldn't covert some good chances before succumbing to another defeat. Still waiting on the video review from this match, to see if anyone was king hit in the crowd like at their encounter last season.

Someone behind the scenes at Fox Sports has it in for Andy Harper, with the Sunday Shoot-out social media segment hosted by Sarah Jelly last week displaying a tweet from Zdravko Cvetanoski which read "Someone please get Andy Harper off the tv". Andy, if the producer says he's got your back, he's probably ready to stick a knife in it having allowed that to go to air.

The FFV announced late on Friday (right on close of business, to avoid any feedback) that the NPLV would not be up and running in 2014. Not a stunning announcement to anyone who's head isn't stuck in the stand. Off to the courts it all goes again, where their recent record is not flash. Will strike three mean they are out?

A Facebook page mocking "Mediocre Footballers/Soccer Players of the 90's and 2000's" baiting Ljubo Milicevic? You know that can't end well. Eastbound & Down fans will enjoy Ljubo's Kenny Powers reference, and could probably picture KP using Ljubo's new trademark of "namaste that shit" in high rotation.

AGAINST ALL ODDS

A-League Title 2013/14

Wanderers	4.00
Brisbane Roar	4.50
Melbourne Victory	4.50
Central Coast Mariners	6.00
Perth Glory	15.0
Adelaide United	11.0
Sydney FC	15.0
Newcastle Jets	15.0
Melbourne Heart	21.0
Wellington Phoenix	26.0

U.K. CUP

Sunday, 17th November, 2013

Gardiners Reserve, Sixth Avenue, Burwood
(Melway : 60J8) FROM 10.00 am to 4.00 pm



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There were plenty of things to talk about in Round 3 of the National Youth League, where better to start than the high profile match of the round, the Melbourne Derby at Lakeside Stadium.

The game was tense, and devoid of clear cut chances, with both sides effectively cancelling each other out.

Andrew Nababout once again starred for Victory, having flown back from Sydney after a fruitless 20 minute cameo for the seniors the night before.

He joined Gui Finkler, Scott Galoway and Rashid Mahazi in the line-up, which had plenty of experience compared to the one against the AIS a week earlier.

It took some brilliance from Nababout to break the deadlock in the 86th minute, as he chested a lobbed pass from substitute Anthony Proia and unleashed a volley past Marko Stevanja in goal for Heart, who was unable to keep it out despite getting a hand to it.

Nababout was once again in the thick of things for the second goal, driving at the Heart defence before laying off a pass for Makarounas to finish to the bottom left corner, sealing the result in stoppage time.

The result ended Heart's perfect start to the season, and also meant that top spot was now owned solely by Sydney FC, who beat Central Coast Mariners 2-1 with ten men.

A stunning strike by Anthony Tomelic kick started proceedings in Tuggerah, while Mariners defender Joshua Forbes scored at the right end this week to grab a deserved equaliser after a vastly improved start to the second half.

But Sydney were good value for their performance and Daniel Pet-



Ross Archibald is off balance but manages to stay on his feet in this clash with Jesse Makarounas. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

kovski put his name up to replace the suspended Marc Warren in Sydney's senior side, with a well taken goal to win the contest for the Sky Blues.

Max Burgess did get himself sent off for a rash challenge on Jesse Curran, but the Mariners couldn't make the most of their man advantage.

Adelaide United also recorded a win with ten men, defeating Newcastle Jets 1-0 at Thebarton Oval. Cameron Watson was sent off for a high challenge in the 53rd minute, and Newcastle will be wondering how they couldn't capitalise on that.

The Reds ran the first half and scored early, after a Matthew Bouzalas shot deflected off the unlucky Nicholas Cowburn and was attributed as an own goal.

It was a sign of things to come for Newcastle, who struggled for any sort of luck on the day, hitting the woodwork on no less than three occasions.

Radovan Pavicevic and Kale Bradbery were lively for the Jets, hitting the crossbar with a header and a free kick respectively, while Cowburn couldn't make up for his own goal, hitting the crossbar with a fierce drive at the death.

The Jets will be hoping for a change

of fortune against bottom side Perth Glory, who are rooted to the foot of the table after another loss, this time to the AIS.

It was a surprisingly score line for the institute side, who simply blew away their opponents with some clinical finishing.

They raced to a 3-0 lead inside the half hour, thanks to an Anthony Kalik penalty and headers to Matthew Schmidt and Ben Warland.

Super-sub Marc Marino then came off the bench for the AIS and made it four just past the hour, having punished Luke Radonich for dallying on the ball.

Perth went into the game goalless for the season, and finally got their name on the scoresheet, although they required a bit of help from their opponents to do so.

Jordan Pudler headed a corner into his own net to bring the scores to 4-1, and they made it 4-2 soon after through Darcy Cosgrove.

There was no super comeback however, as Marino capped off a fine display with a second goal late in stoppage time, embarrassing Radonich yet again with a finish through the keeper's legs to make it 5-2 at the final whistle.

Brisbane won a game on the third attempt, beating Western Sydney Wanderers 3-1 at Marconi Stadium thanks to an impressive brace from Jai Ingham.

They had to be at their best defensively however, and goalkeeper Denver Crickmore excelled, keeping out several Wanderers half chances.

The hosts did grab a late consolation through Shannon D'Cunha, who capitalised on Crickmore's one error in the match.

It was certainly an action-packed weekend of football in the youth league, which simply keeps on giving.

Results

Melbourne Victory 2
(Nababout 86m, Makarounas 90+1m)
Melbourne Heart 0

Western Sydney Wanderers 1
(Shannon D'Cunha 92m)
Brisbane Roar 3 (Shannon Brady 23m, Jai Ingham 34m, 84m)

Adelaide United 1 (Cowburn 7m og)
Newcastle Jets 0

AIS 5 (Anthony Kalik 11' (pen), Matthew Schmidt 18', Ben Warland 29'. Marc Marino 63', 93')
Perth Glory 2 (Jordan Pudler (og) 69', Darcy Cosgrove 76')

Central Coast Mariners Youth 1
(Forbes 53)
Sydney FC Youth 2
(Tomelic 5, Petkovski 56)

NYL Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	P
1 Sydney FC	2	2	0	0	4	0	4	6
2 Melbourne Heart	2	2	0	0	3	1	2	6
3 Melbourne Victory	2	1	1	0	7	4	3	4
4 AIS	2	1	0	1	3	4	-1	3
5 Newcastle Jets	2	1	0	1	2	3	-1	3
6 Adelaide United	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	2
7 Wanderers	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1
8 Brisbane Roar	2	0	1	1	4	5	-1	1
9 CC Mariners	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1
10 Perth Glory	2	0	0	2	0	4	-0	0

Next Round

Saturday 3 November
AIS v Melbourne Victory
AIS Athletics Track
KO 1:00 PM

Saturday 3 November
Melbourne Heart v Brisbane Roar
John Cain Memorial Res, Thornbury
KO 3:00 PM

Saturday 3 November
Western Sydney v Adelaide United
Campbelltown Stadium
KO 4:45 PM

Sunday 4 November
Central Coast Mariners v Sydney FC
Centre of Excellence, Tuggerah
KO 10:30 AM

Sunday 4 November
Perth Glory v Newcastle Jets
Intiga Stadium, Inglewood
KO 6:00 PM



Jesse Makarounas is confronted by Ross Archibald. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON



NYL action from the Roar's 3-1 away win at the Wanderers. Photos: GEORGE MARIN



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World At Their Feet At Knox's Egan Lee

By Daniel Potter

The 28th Annual All Nations Cup kicked off for 2013 last weekend and the 400+ supporters, players & officials that turned up each day were treated to some great action from the very first game.

Saturday 9th November 2013

Bosnia 1-2 France

The early morning rain stopped just in time for the first two nations to take the field.

Both teams started brightly, but it was Bosnia that opened the scoring in the 4th minute, a stunning 25yrd strike from Adem Alicevic. A goal worthy of opening any tournament.

France though were not to be outdone and worked their way back into the game and eventually overcame Bosnia with goals from Alex Tabor and Kliment Taseski.

Man of the match:
Kilment Taseski (France)

Scotland 0-0 Hungary

Last year's runners up against a new Nation for 2013. Word around the town was that Hungary had put together a good squad, and it was evident that they had indeed succeeded. Scotland struggled to find their form from last year and while both nations had chances to win it, neither could capitalise. In the end, neither nation could break the deadlock.

Man of the match:
Yessar Daou (Hungary)

Chile 1-1 Italy

A great technical game with both nations showing that quick feet and ball movement make for a great spectacle. Over the course of the game Italy carved out the better of the chances and it was left to Luca Santilli to help himself to a brace and secure the points for the Italians.

Man of the match:
Andrew Viola (Italy)

Cyprus 1-1 Seychelles

Both nations were obviously very happy to be back competing this year and set about trying to take the early points. Chances came and went and it was Cyprus that took the lead after 17mins through Mustafa Mustafa. Seychelles refused to lay down and continued to put the pressure on and with virtually the last kick of the game levelled the score through substitute Theo Papadopoulos.

Man of the match:
Taskin Suleyman (Cyprus)

Sunday 10th November 2013

Australia 2-2 Somalia

If Saturday was a little cagey with regards to goals scored, they forgot to tell these two nations with both side creating chances early on and the lead changing hands during the match. It was Somalia that broke



Mighty Magyars: Steve Topalovic (Scotland) is outnumbered by the Hungarian defence.



Australia 2-2 Somalia

the deadlock after 5 mins through Sami Nour, but Australia were not going to take it lying down and equalised through George Kotsiris 10 mins later. The arm wrestle continued and Australia went ahead on 22mins through Thom Lino. Somalia however were not done for and in the 40th min drew level with a Nelson Salvatore strike.

Man of the match: Nelson Salvatore (Somalia)

Mauritius 1-1 Portugal

With Mauritius bringing their large supporter group, Portugal were trying to take that out of the equation by taking the game to them. Neither team could find a way through in the first half, but when the goals came, they came in quick succession. Portugal took the lead through Dean Ventieri in the 35min, but within a minute Mauritius were back on level terms with Ashley Savannah find the back of the net.

Man of the match: Halil Gur (Portugal)

Serbia 3-1 Romania

Two of the big guns were in town! Both bringing great support and really looking forward to this one. An arm wrestle for much of the first half with Serbia taking the upper hand on 22mins through Vedran Tanasic. Romania continued to ask questions and just before half time levelled the score with a Denny Besan Strike. Continuing on from the first half Serbia eventually made their pressure tell in the 54th min through Zoran Vukas and in injury time Milos Lujic made it 3-1.

Man of the Match: Harry Newman (Romania)

Ireland 4-1 Albania

The final match of the weekend saw another two of the competitions big nations take to the field, and what a great contest to finish the weekend. The score line didn't reflect how close the game was, but in the end Ireland proved too strong

on the day with a hatrick from Luke Sherbon and late goal from Alan Mulcahy sealing the victory.

Man of the match: Luke Sherbon (Ireland)

All Nations Cup 2013

Knox City FC.

Egan Lee Reserve - Knoxfield

Don't forget that you can follow the action and see the photos from the games on the Knox City FC website and Facebook page.

This Weekends Fixtures

Saturday 16th November

11.30am Seychelles v Scotland
1.00pm Italy v Somalia
2.30pm Romania v Bosnia
4.00pm Cyprus v Hungary

Sunday 17th November

11.30am Albania v Portugal
1.00pm Ireland v Mauritius
2.30pm Serbia v France
4.00pm Chile v Australia

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Serbia	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
France	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Bosnia	1	0	1	0	1	2	0
Romania	1	0	1	0	1	3	0

Group 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cyprus	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Seychelles	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Hungary	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Scotland	1	0	0	1	0	0	1

Group 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ireland	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Mauritius	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Portugal	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Albania	1	0	1	0	1	4	0

Group 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Australia	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Somalia	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Chile	1	0	1	0	0	2	0



Mauritius 1-1 Portugal



Ireland 4-1 Albania

2

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Pascoe Vale upstaged once again as Fitzroy steal top spot

Womens PEPSI League Rd 6
Heidelberg FC 0-7 Pascoe Vale FC
HFC - None supplied
PVFC - C.Drinoczky 3, N.Tumbelty 2, C.Duffy, I.Jakab
Missing players and plenty of new inclusions to the side did not halt Pascoe's charge as they raced out to a six nil half time lead the star of the show Chloe Drinoczky bagging a first half hat trick
After half time Heidelberg put up a much better performance only conceding once to Nicki Tumbelty although they could not manage to score themselves they only conceded once in what looked positive signs from Heidelberg. As for Pascoe Vale a win was crucial after suffering 2 defeats to their closest title rivals they picked up some much needed points in their quest for back to back titles.
Player Of The Game - Chloe Drinoczky (Pascoe Vale FC)

Fitzroy FC 6-1 Vic Vipers FC
FFC: C.Fruscalzo 2, S.Papadopoulos 2, E.Vatcky, S.Oddo
VV: J.Byrne
Fitzroy raced out to the better start going into the break leading 3-1 courtesy of goals to Elaina Vatcky and 2 to Stacey Papadopoulos while Jess Byrne got the only goal for the Vipers.
Having their full strength side on this court for the first time this season Fitzroy looked a force to be reckoned with coming up big again blowing the Vipers out of the water with 3 unanswered goals to give them a 6-1 win and boost them up to 3rd in the league and keeps them in touch with a runaway Melbourne Uni. You would be foolish to think this side if they turn up every week could not win the league they definitely have the squad to do so, As for the Vipers they need a serious reshuffle if they are to keep in touch with the leagues front runners.
Player Of The Game - Stacey Papadopoulos (Fitzroy FC)

Mens NIKE League Rd 8
Mickleham FC 2-7 Fitzroy FC
MICK: L. Campbell, L. Holian
FTZ: M. Burton 3, A. Granollers 2, F. De Moraes, A. Dunlop
Fresh off an epic win against Pascoe Vale on Friday night, all eyes were on Fitzroy to see if they would get complacent against the lowly Mickleham. But it looked as if there were no signs of slowing down for the Roys as they raced to a 4-0 lead at the break with an Ale Granollers

double setting the tone. The second half saw Todd Miles side go from strength to strength as they added a further three goals from Fernando and a double from Mark Burton to cap off a well earned hat trick. Mickleham managed two consolation goals from Lachie Campbell and Luke Holian, but they had no influence on the scoreboard.
Man of the Match: Alejandro Granollers (Fitzroy)
Metropolitan FC 5-5 Hume FC
MET: J. Julardzija 3, E. Simsek, A. Redzepovic
HME: R. Culculoglu, N. Sahin, M. Parlak, F. Bozdogan, A. Az-zam
Hume delivered the first blow by taking a 2-1 half time lead and it got worse for the Royal Blues as Alex Cobo was handed a straight red. Hume managed to continue their first half momentum to record a second half 5-3 lead with strikes from Ahmed Azzam, Fikri Bozdogan and a stunning long range effort from Nej Sahin. But it wasn't enough to keep Metro at bay as the fought back with a double from star striker Juso Julardzija. There was more late drama to follow in the final minute of play as Hume's Adem Alicevic brought down Alija Redzepovic on the edge of the area to receive his marching orders and gift Julardzija a chance to slot the resulting penalty to win the game, but his adversary in goal, Emre Ocal stood firm to rescue a point for his side.
Man of the Match: Juso Julardzija (Metropolitan)
Vic Vipers FC 5-2 Albert Park FC
VV: A. Cooper 3, Jas. Barrientos, Jon. Barrientos
APK: A. Abdul, N. Ngo
Albert Park manager Michael Lam had quite a task on his hands. But to everyone's surprise it was the underdogs who took a 2-1 half time lead with goals from Ali Abdul and Norris Ngo. The second half saw Albert Park look to hold onto their slender lead, but it was only a matter of time until the Vipers broke through, considering how many shots they had on goal. Adam Cooper was the pick of the Vipers players with three match winning goals in the second half.
Man of the Match: Mo Kuzucu (Albert Park)
Pascoe Vale FC 2-0 Ashburton FC (Mens) Round 8
PV: L. Kruel 2



Joao Silveira (Front) Celebrates with Fernando De Moraes in yet another Fitzroy win.



Claudia Fruscalzo (L) & Stacey Papadopoulos (R) Celebrate a goal during their big win over Vic Vipers



Lorenzo de Paris Middle poses with some fans in his final game for the club.

The last game for round 8 also saw the last game for Pascoe keeper Lorenzo De Paris and his farewell clash got off to the best possible start when Lucas Kruel converted a free kick the only notable action of the first half after some dogged defending from Ashburton.
It took a long chunk of the second half for the lions to double their advantage but they did Kruel's deflected effort making it 2-0 and that how it remained the perfect finish to De Paris Pascoe Vale career for now at last.

Man of the Match: Lorenzo De Paris (Pascoe Vale)
Pascoe Vale FC 3-4 Fitzroy PVFC - S.Soufi 2, J.Da Silva, FFC - A.Fusca 2, A.Dunlop, J.Silveira
Next up a rescheduled Men's game between Fitzroy and Pascoe Vale graced the Futsal Oz stadium. The pair traded blows with an early goal each before Ilhan Altuntas was sent off to leave Fitzroy a man down. It did

little to halt Fitzroy thought with Fusca getting his second to have them ahead at the break.
Fitzroy then got the first 2 of the second half to lead 4-1 before Pascoe deployed the fly keeper which almost payed dividence pulling two back but Fitzroy hung on for a famous Victory the clubs first win over their rivals under the new regime.
Man Of The Match - Alistair Dunlop

Standings										
NIKE V-LEAGUE Premiership										
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	FD	Pts	
1 Fitzroy FC	8	6	1	0	1	41	29	+12	19	
2 Vic Vipers FC	6	6	0	0	0	40	18	+22	18	
3 Pascoe Vale FC	7	5	2	0	0	39	19	+20	15	
4 Metropolitan FC	8	4	3	0	1	54	40	+14	13	
5 Hume FC	7	2	3	0	2	39	32	+7	8	
6 Ashburton FC	8	2	4	0	2	38	45	-7	8	
7 Mickleham FC	7	1	6	0	0	27	56	-29	3	
8 Albert Park FC	7	0	7	0	0	22	61	-39	0	
Pepsi Womens WV-LEAGUE										
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	FD	Pts	
1 Melbourne Uni FC	6	6	0	0	0	40	8	+32	18	
2 Pascoe Vale FC	6	4	2	0	0	36	10	+26	12	
3 Fitzroy FC	6	4	2	0	0	21	29	-8	12	
4 F.C Richmond	5	3	1	0	1	31	19	+12	10	
5 Ashburton FC	6	2	3	0	1	23	38	-15	7	
6 Vic Vipers FC	6	1	3	0	2	19	23	-4	5	
7 EFA Eagles	5	1	4	0	0	12	30	-18	3	
8 Heidelberg FC	6	0	6	0	0	9	34	-25	0	
State League Championship										
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	FD	Pts	
1 CF Brunswick	8	8	0	0	0	56	27	+29	24	
2 Moreland FC	8	5	2	0	1	47	33	+14	16	
3 FC Balwyn	7	4	3	0	0	42	30	+12	12	
4 FC Carlton	7	3	2	0	2	38	27	+11	11	
5 Brimbank FC	8	3	4	0	1	43	61	-18	10	
6 FC Northcote	7	3	4	0	0	30	35	-5	9	
7 FC Melbourne	8	2	6	0	0	40	46	-6	6	
8 FC Essendon	7	0	7	0	0	21	58	-37	0	
State League One										
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	FD	Pts	
1 FC Collingwood	8	6	2	0	0	42	21	+21	18	
2 Brighton FC	8	5	1	0	2	40	20	+20	17	
3 FC Hawthorn	8	4	3	0	1	36	24	+12	13	
4 CF South Melb	8	4	3	0	1	34	30	+4	13	
5 FC Prahran	8	3	2	0	3	32	26	+6	12	
6 Toorak FC	8	3	4	0	1	28	35	-7	10	
7 Coburg Athletic	8	2	6	0	0	23	46	-23	6	
8 FC Footscray	8	1	7	0	0	25	58	-33	3	
State League Two										
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	FD	Pts	
1 Doncaster FC	8	8	0	0	0	42	17	+25	24	
2 FC Preston	8	6	2	0	0	33	26	+7	18	
3 Mcleod FC	8	4	2	0	2	41	36	+5	14	
4 FC Richmond	8	4	4	0	0	41	47	-6	12	
5 FC Geelong	8	3	4	0	1	56	34	+22	10	
6 EFA Eagles	8	2	5	0	1	34	37	-3	7	
7 Elsternwick FC	8	2	6	0	0	25	33	-8	6	
8 FC St Kilda	8	1	7	0	0	28	47	-19	3	
NEXT WEEK'S CLASHES										
Friday 15th November										
7:20pm - Albert Park vs Pascoe Vale FC (Mens)										
8:15pm - EFA Eagles vs Heidelberg FC										
9:00pm - FC Richmond vs Fitzroy FC										
9:45pm - Vic Vipers FC vs Melbourne Uni FC										
10:30pm - Vic Vipers vs Mickleham (Mens)										
Sunday 17th November										
5pm - Metropolitan FC vs Mickleham FC										
6pm - Hume FC vs Pascoe Vale FC										
7pm - Fitzroy FC vs Vic Vipers FC										
8pm - Albert Park FC vs Ashburton FC										

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By Joe Gallagher

All Whites Dare To Dream

If you're reading this in print, it's likely you've stored the idea of World Cup qualification in a segment at the back of your brain labelled '2017's problems'.

But, please, spare a thought for your cousins across the ditch.

Recently All Whites fans have experienced it all; confusion, despair, hope, more despair and anxiety, this without the national team even lining up on the pitch. Underlying it all has been anticipation, slowly building for four long years.

November 14, 2009, was one of the most glorious nights in New Zealand's sporting history. The win over Bahrain in Wellington, which booked the All Whites' flights to South Africa the following winter, was something of pure theatre.

It almost didn't matter what happened in South Africa, but the unbeaten World Cup run (triviality aside, this statistic has become somewhat of a trophy) only made us all hungrier for more.

And precisely four years to the day since that special night in Wellington, All Whites fans will gather to witness a second shot for glory. Not at the Cake Tin, but the Azteca Stadium. Not in front of a Kiwi crowd of over 35,000, but to the noise of treble that. Not against Bahrain, but Mexico.

The All Whites have put on a brave face and answered their questions diplomatically since Mexico were confirmed as their opponent but in truth this is a nightmare scenario for Ricki Herbert. It would have been even if the squad was at full strength.

A number of key players have only recently returned, but the cruelest of blows was dealt last week when their centre-back, captain, and best player Winston Reid was ruled out due to injury.

The All Whites are depleted, and they're going up against the world's 24th-ranked team. It's a tough ask.

Throw in the retirement of the nu-



New Zealand line up for their World Cup encounter with Mexico.

cleus of the 2010 campaign – Ryan Nelsen, Mark Paston, Simon Elliott – the disastrous 2012 Oceania Nations Cup and a handful of hastily organised friendlies, and it has scarcely been ideal preparation.

But Mexico too have endured a horror campaign. They were expected to stroll to Brazil as one of CONCACAF's top three, but came within moments of missing out on this playoff altogether. Had it not been for two stoppage time goals, the All Whites would be lining up against Panama this Thursday instead.

Herbert's tactics are likely to be pragmatic in the first leg; damage limitation will be the key. If New Zealand can come back to Wellington with the scoreline still intact, they could be in with a chance.

And if 2010 proved anything, it's that tactics borne from realism are something of a speciality of Her-

bert.

Without Reid the onus defensively will be on Tommy Smith, Ben Sigmund, and the newly-Kiwi Andrew Durante. Herbert still lacks genuine wide defenders but could do worse than to offer an international debut to 20-year-old Mariner Storm Roux.

The ageless Ivan Vicelich and another Mariner, Michael McGlinchey, will anchor the mid-field.

The irony is that where the All Whites have made their most impressive gains since 2009 is unlikely to receive much of the lime-light.

The talents of Marco Rojas, Shane Smeltz, Jeremy Brockie and Kosta Barbarouses are recognised across Australia. Leicester City striker Chris Wood is knocking on the door of the Premiership, and Rory Fallon offers confidence and

memories of that glorious moment in Wellington four years ago. But how many of these players feature remains to be seen.

Herbert's squad features four amateur players and two who are currently unattached, a point best accentuated by comparison: his opposite Miguel Herrera has left a starting Manchester United striker out of the squad altogether, for the first leg at least.

It would be a lie to say that Mexico aren't favourites. But they're under all sorts of pressure, and have gone through four coaches in the past two months.

History beckons. Victory in the tie would undoubtedly be one of the finest achievements in New Zealand's footballing history. The All Whites have always desired tests against the world's best teams.

And there'll be few greater challenges than this.



Will He? Won't He? Only William Can Tell

By Gareth Morgan

William Gallas says he is feeling fit and ready to go but is still unsure as anyone if he will start or come off the bench in this week's match against Adelaide United at nib Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

Gallas arrived in Australia this week and has trained with his new teammates for the past two days as he adjusts to his new football adventure with Perth Glory.

The player capped 84 times for France says he is happy with his first two sessions as he continues to build up fitness for his Glory debut, but is still yet to confirm with Head Coach Alistair Edwards in what capacity he will be used.

"Every day he asks me how I feel and I'm very honest with him, I said I'm getting better, but training is not the game, you have to play for 90 minutes and I just spoke with the young players and they told me that 90 minutes is very long and



you have to be ready because the ball can go from one goal to the other goal and you have to be ready to run," Gallas said.

"Today was a good test, it was not easy and I am a little tired from my second session but I was very happy because today we played 24

minutes and I could finish the session so now I'm looking forward to being ready for Saturday."

Gallas says playing with a new club is always bound to have its teething problems as he slowly gets to know his new team mates. The 36-year-old defender says he has

been studying his fellow players' names on the internet at night with the aim of introducing himself the next day although he has already made it a priority to learn all the defenders names.

"Every night I go on the website and I look at all the players and I try to come in the morning and try to say hello, so today was not too bad."

"It is difficult because there are 24 players and I have to know all their names. I already know the name of my defense line so that is very important and I think everyone is happy."

The former Chelsea, Arsenal and Tottenham player realizes part of his responsibility in the back line is to communicate on the pitch. Gallas says he was happy to sit back and listen during the first training session but was more vocal in the second session and was confident he would be able to offer effective leadership on Saturday – particularly in partnership with goalkeeper

Danny Vukovic.

"The first day I didn't speak a lot, I just listened to what the manager for what to do and today because it was a small game, I should speak, so I spoke a lot to my team-mates and they spoke to me."

"We still have two days before the game and the manager is a guy who wants to be perfect so on Friday (Glory's final training session) I think everything will be okay for the game."

"Yeah he (Vukovic) speaks a lot on the pitch, the first training he was talking a lot and that is good for the players. It is very important that someone can talk and I think for the goalkeeper it is good because that means that he has that confidence and everyone out there is very secure with him," he added.

With temperatures now expected to be a more moderate 30 degrees on Saturday afternoon, Perth Glory are expecting a bumper crowd to watch William Gallas make his Hyundai A-League debut.

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It's High Fives For Defending Champs

By Katie Lambeski

The W-League began season 2013/14 in outstanding fashion, as Sydney FC showed they are still a force to be reckoned with, Adelaide showing a marked improvement, Canberra stunning Brisbane and Perth displayed their attacking prowess as they put five past the Jets.

Perth Glory travelled over to the Hunter's Wanderers Stadium to take on the Newcastle Jets, their venture successful as they ran out 5-2 winners over the traditional strugglers. Despite sweltering heat early, a fast and furious opening 10 minutes saw the Glory take a 2-1 lead early, as last season's Golden Boot Kate Gill and Collette McCullum cancelled out an opening minute goal from the home side's Hannah Beard. The Jets levelled on the 35th minute, a coolly converted spot kick from Tara Andrews equalised after Beard was bought down in the penalty area.

The match was in the balance, and it was Perth who responded and finished strongly after a bright restart from the Jets. Goals from Christina Julien (66'), Rosie Sutton (81') set up the result for the Glory, with Marianna Tabain putting the gloss on at the 90th minute on a solid opening round win for the Glory. Canberra United stunned the Brisbane Roar to open their season on the right note, as they defeated the potential title challengers 3-0 on Saturday afternoon at AJ Kelly Fields. A brace either side of the half-time whistle from Canberra striker Michelle Heyman, which added to an opener on the 8th minute from Lori Lindsey, had Canberra in control. They weren't interested in relinquishing their grip on the game either.



Victory keeper Brianna Davey foils Leena Khamis. Photo: JOHN PUNSHON

United went on to successfully shut out the Roar in the second half, leaving the hosts frustrated and the visitors content. Brisbane were left to rue some missed chances in the first half, the best coming from Tameka Butt late in the first half. The Roar is expected to challenge for the title this season, but improvement will need to come fast in what is a very short season. Adelaide United aren't expected to trouble many teams this season. That might have to be rethought after taking a point from Western

Sydney Wanderers, drawing 1-1 at Marconi Stadium on Sunday afternoon. On her W-League debut, Adelaide defender Alex Gummer opened the scoring on the 31st minute. Looking set to secure an upset win, the Lady Reds were denied by a last minute equaliser from Catherine Cannuli. Adelaide appear to have turned a corner, but no results ever get more out of context than Round 1 results. The Wanderers went into the match with their stars such as Alanna Kennedy, Servet Uzunlar

and Heather Garriock. Too often, they couldn't cut through a resolute Adelaide although will be better for the opening hit-out. All of a sudden, Adelaide have made their next few weeks very interesting for the neutral. Melbourne Victory were left stunned by Sydney FC at Lakeside Stadium on Sunday, unable to avenge their Grand Final as they went down 5-1. Despite a rollicking start that had them 1-0 up through an Emma Checker header after only four minutes in, Victory had no answer to a rampant and organised champion outfit. A brace from Nicola Bolger led the way for the Sky Blues, with Leena Khamis,

Emma Kete and Jodie Taylor all chipping in with goals of their own. A mature Sydney squad, despite losing some strike power in the off-season, showed they are still tough to beat. Victory will rue a sloppy final 20 minutes of the game, making mistakes in dangerous areas that Sydney pounced on. They are still yet to welcome Jess Fishlock and Jess Samuelson to the ranks, while Lisa De Vanna had an outstanding opening to her Victory career, often creating chances out of nothing and pressing the Sydney defenders. The W-League continues this Saturday when Melbourne Victory look

Results
Melbourne Victory 1 Sydney FC 5
Wanderers 1 Adelaide Utd 1
Wanderers 1 Canberra Utd 1
Newcastle Jets 2 Perth Glory 5

Standings							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	D
1 Sydney FC	1	1	0	0	5	1	4
2 Perth Glory	1	1	0	0	5	2	3
3 Canberra United	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
4 Wanderers	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
5 Adelaide United	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
6 Brisbane Roar	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3
7 Newcastle Jets	1	0	0	1	2	5	-3
8 Melbourne Victory	1	0	0	1	1	5	-4

Next Round
Sat 16 Nov 13 2:00pm Adelaide United Vs Melbourne Victory Burton Park
Sat 16 Nov 13 3:00pm Sydney FC Vs Newcastle Jets WIN Stadium, Wollongong
Sat 16 Nov 13 6:00pm Perth Glory Vs Brisbane Roar Intiga Stadium
Sun 17 Nov 13 3:00pm Canberra United Vs Wanderers McKellar Park

to redeem themselves in Adelaide, as the Lady Reds look for their first points of the season. Saturday's second clash will see Sydney play their first home game of the season against the Jets, Sydney will deservedly go in hot favourites. Sunday's fixtures will open with Brisbane, who are another that will be out for redemption, heading over to Perth in what is likely to be the match of the round. Canberra will look for another three points, as they host Western Sydney Wanderers.



Nicola Bolger shares the joy after scoring the first of her two goals for Sydney
Photo: JOHN PUNSHON



Photographer Zee Ko was also at the Victory v SFC game to capture the action.

Uruguay And Mexico Score Five In Openers



Latin Wrap

Francis Fields

For two-time champions Uruguay bagged five in the heat of Amman in Jordan for a 5-0 away victory meanwhile Mexico as hosts at the colossal Azteca stadium got off to winning ways in their two-leg play off series with a 5-1 thrashing of the New Zealand All Whites. With just over 90,000 fans in what was considered a cold and chilly afternoon with ten degrees in the Mexican capital, the conditions were perfect for football.

Boisterous Mexican fans were longing for a convincing win at the emblematic stadium with an all new look side managed by Miguel Herrera. It took 32 minutes for El Tri to open up their scoring account. A defensive error from Australian-born Andrew Durante clashing with goalkeeper Glen Moss enabled an unmarked Paul Aguilar to open the floodgates.

The onslaught continued as Ricki Herbert reluctantly continued to field a back five in defence for the All Whites leaving Chris Wood as their sole forward.

The locals dominated proceedings in possession, shots on target and with nine corners to their favour. It also brought the best of custodian Glen Moss, unanimously voted by the Mexican press as the All Whites' man of the match with countless world-class saves preventing a thrashing.

For New Zealand's abysmal first half scoreline, it was also noteworthy to mention that they fielded the oldest player on the pitch in defender Ivan Vicelich at 38 years of age. Essentially it was the core of the Wellington Phoenix up against Club América on show and fighting for a World Cup 2014 berth.

The 5-1 result practically leaves Mexico with a massive upper hand with all likelihood to progress to next year's World Cup. With only three goal opportunities for Herbert's men, the technical superiority of Mexico was for all to see.

A deafening atmosphere at the Azteca was also at hand to finally witness a resounding victory after failing to grab a direct spot via the CONCACAF qualification zone.

Captain Rafael Márquez concluded after the match, "it was a convincing victory but the task is not over yet, we cannot be overconfident and we take the return leg in Wellington seriously".

Mexico will travel to Wellington via Los Angeles and Sydney in a long-haul flight with a full day's rest of jet lag ahead with the crossing of the international date line.

Coach Miguel Herrera was able to get his job done in his first outing at Mexico's national team boss after a tumultuous month of four manag-



ers getting the sack. Many Mexican insiders and fans alike criticised his appointment directing the influence of media conglomerate Televisa who have vested interests at Club América, partly owning the Azteca stadium and with the Mexican Football Federation.

The play-off match captured a multi-million television audience including the huge immigration population in the United States, keenly following the progress of El Tri.

A four-goal advantage with defender Paul Aguilar scoring, Raúl Jiménez on the 40th minute just before the break), captain Rafael Márquez (84') and with forward Oribe Peralta scoring his second of the night with a brilliant header on 80 minutes brought relief to the Mexican football authorities and the many thousands of enthusiastic and passionate football fans.

All White Marco Rojas also spoke

in commanding Spanish of the disappointment of losing at the Azteca. Reflecting on the scoreline he discounted the loss as a result of intimidation from the stadium and atmosphere itself and quoted as saying that the return in Wellington will be very tough task to look forward to reverting next Thursday at Westpac stadium.

URUGUAY BAG FIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Meanwhile in Amman, Uruguay put one foot in the World Cup finals with a 5-0 hammering of Jordan in their intercontinental playoff early Thursday.

Maximiliano Pereira put the visitors ahead midway through the first half before Cristian Stuani doubled that lead from close range three minutes before the break.

Nicolás Lodeiro, Cristian Rodríguez and Edinson Cavani netted further goals for Oscar Tabárez's men in

the second half, as Jordan's hopes of reaching its maiden World Cup finals suffered a major setback.

The result brings to an end the hosts' 16-match unbeaten run at home and leaves Jordan with a mountain to climb in the return leg next week.

Tabárez made three changes to the Uruguay side that beat Argentina 3-2 in the final match of the South American qualification process at the Centenario in Montevideo, with goalkeeper Martin Silva's introduction in place of the injured Fernando Muslera among the alterations.

Jordan, meanwhile, was a different side from its last competitive encounter - a goalless draw with Oman - with Adnan Hasan and Odai Alsaiy just two of the seven players to come in.

Hasan got the first shot on target for the hosts, but his drilled effort from 20 yards was straight at Silva in the Uruguay goal. The South American

visitors were slow settling in at the Amman International Stadium and struggled to create any meaningful chances in the early stages.

Uruguay was almost made to pay after 18 minutes when Alsaiy beat his man on the edge of the penalty area and forced goalkeeper Silva to tip around his left post for a corner. But it was the Charrúas who took the lead after 21 minutes through Pereira. Mohamad Shatnawi failed to hold onto a Cavani header following an excellent cross from the right, and Pereira capitalized by latching onto the rebound to put his side ahead from close range.

And Jordan's dreams of reaching Brazil 2014 took a further blow in the 42nd minute when Uruguay doubled its advantage. Stuani found himself in acres of space at the far post and slotted under Shatnawi after a delightful chipped cross by Lodeiro.

Ahmad Ibrahim inexplicably guided the ball wide of the target from

inside the six-yard box 10 minutes into the second period, wasting a glorious opportunity to give Jordan a fighting chance of getting back into the tie.

Substitute Musab Al Laham was then booked for simulation just seconds after coming on when he threw himself to the ground in a desperate bid for a penalty, before Lodeiro made sure of the victory for Uruguay in the 70th minute.

The Botafogo play maker fired from the edge of the penalty area with the Jordan defence in disarray, and Rodríguez added to the rout eight minutes later with a left-footed thunderbolt from 12 yards.

Tabárez's side continued to pile on the pressure late on and Cavani got in on the act with a stunning injury-time free-kick to all but secure Uruguay's place at Brazil 2014. The second leg will be played at the Centenario in what is already a sell-out.



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Barclays Premier League

Andrew Bishara

Spurs need time for goals to click

It's the unspoken rule of being a football manager: never attack the club's fans. So it came as a surprise that Tottenham boss, Andre Villas-Boas let rip a couple of weeks ago, against the Spurs faithful, following its 1-0 win over Hull City.

"We looked like the away team. We played in a difficult atmosphere with almost no support," said Villas-Boas.

"We have a wonderful set of fans but they can do better. We don't need the negativity of today.

"We didn't have the support we should have done. There was much anxiety from the stands, the players had to do it alone."

This negative atmosphere comes from Tottenham's lack of vibrancy at home. For all its expenditure in bringing in high-class attacking talent to White Hart Lane, it plays a rather dull game in front of its fans.

So far this season, it has only scored nine goals in 11 games, and out of six home Premier League games, it has won three, drawn once, lost twice. The problem with the wins though, is that Spurs lacked any forward imagination.

It needed penalties to get wins over Hull City and Swansea. It survived a late onslaught to nick a 1-1 draw with Chelsea and got pummeled 3-0 by West Ham.

Which made the 1-0 defeat to Newcastle last weekend all that more ironic, because it was it's best display of the season.

Spurs was at it's fluent best,



Saint in Heaven: Jay Rodriguez gets an England call-up against Chile

dominating the Magpies in the centre of the pitch, and if were not for the heroics of the visitors' 'keeper Tim Krul, it would have had three points in the bag.

Whether the criticism over Spurs' more defensive minded attitude is fair or not, there is a reason for it. Villas-Boas brought in seven new players, while selling another handful of established players.

Therefore, time was always needed to get the new boys adjusted to the Premier League's fast paced game, as well gelling with their new teammates.

This negative atmosphere comes from Tottenham's lack of vibrancy at home. For all its expenditure in bringing in high-class attacking talent to White Hart Lane, it plays a rather dull game in front of its fans.

So it makes sense if Villas-Boas wants to get his team right defensively before it releases the shackles or as the old football

mantra goes "building from the back".

Give it time and sooner or later, Spurs will start clicking up front. It shows that the team are all on the same page, when two of its players jump to the team's defence.

Winger Andros Townsend, said the team is not panicking over its early form.

"If we are winning 1-0 then we will take that because it is three points but if we are losing it is a problem.


"We are a relatively new side, we are a young side and we are still getting to know each other and learn each other's games. Goals will come I'm sure of it - hopefully sooner rather than later."

Back-up 'keeper Brad Friedel was also sure that when the team finds its "midas touch", it will start winning more comprehensively.

"We obviously need to find the midas touch but we are unlucky as well," he said.

"We create so many chances and if you see the way we are in training, the quality we have, finishing is not an issue. I fully anticipate that, at the end of the season, we will be up there among the higher goalscorers in the league.

ENGLAND EPL



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last 5 games Most recent first
1 Arsenal	11	8	1	2	22	10	+12	25	L W W W D
2 Liverpool	11	7	2	2	21	10	+11	23	W L W D W
3 Southampton	11	6	4	1	15	5	+10	22	D W D W W
4 Chelsea	11	6	3	2	18	10	+8	21	D L W W W
5 Manchester United	11	6	2	3	18	13	+5	20	W W W D W
6 Everton	11	5	5	1	14	10	+4	20	D D W W L
7 Tottenham Hotspur	11	6	2	3	9	6	+3	20	L D W W L
8 Manchester City	11	6	1	4	28	12	+16	19	L W L W W
9 Newcastle United	11	5	2	4	15	16	-1	17	W W L D W
10 West Bromwich ...	11	3	5	3	12	12	+0	14	D W L D D
11 Aston Villa	11	4	2	5	11	12	-1	14	W D L L D
12 Hull City	11	4	2	5	9	14	-5	14	L W L L D
13 Swansea City	11	3	3	5	15	15	+0	12	D L D W L
14 Cardiff City	11	3	3	5	9	15	-6	12	L W D L L
15 Norwich City	11	3	2	6	9	21	-12	11	W D L L L
16 West Ham United	11	2	4	5	9	11	-2	10	L D D L W
17 Stoke City	11	2	4	5	10	14	-4	10	D L D L D
18 Fulham	11	3	1	7	10	19	-9	10	L L L W W
19 Sunderland	11	2	1	8	8	22	-14	7	W L W L L
20 Crystal Palace	11	1	1	9	6	21	-15	4	D L L L L

"I really do think the goals will come. I have said it for a while now that, with the class we have, there is goals in this team."

Fans will be hoping that the team begins to start showing its ruthless soon. It faces a daunting trip to Etihad Stadium to Manchester City this weekend.

International Week.
There is no Premier League this weekend, as the final World Cup spots are assorted. Luckily for England, they have already booked themselves a place in Brazil next year, so they got two friendlies lined up.

First, it will come up against Chile, before facing another European powerhouse in Germany. Not much can be made of friendlies; they are usually a time when managers try out new players, formations and tactics to see what they can use as Plan B in Brazil.

Roy Hodgson has his team pretty much ready on paper, so it comes to no surprise that he has given a few new boys the chance to impress.

Two of those, come from Southampton and least it say, it's about time. Jay Rodriguez and Adam

Lallana have been in sparkling form with the Saints this season, and their chances to impress on the international stage are well deserved.

Hodgson made his reasons for selecting the duo quite clear.

[Manchester United forward] Danny Welbeck has been injured - I see in Rodriguez someone who could fill that Welbeck role," said Hodgson.

"He's a wide forward who likes to go forward and attack people even without the ball and get in the penalty box."

"Adam was with us once a long time ago. We saw him in training, we have been following him closely and he played a major part in [Southampton's] rise to the top. It was quite obvious we would pick him."

Fellow Saint, Ricki Lambert, who has scored four goals so far this season, as Southampton sits third on the table, will join them.

The England manager will have to juggle a new team with a host of players injured for the friendlies, including Liverpool duo Steven Gerrard, Daniel Sturridge and Manchester United midfielder Michael Carrick.

Hodgson though will stick with out-of-form Manchester City


Latest Results	Next Match
Aston Villa 2 - 0 Cardiff City	Everton v Liverpool
Chelsea 2 - 2 West Brom	Arsenal v Southampton
Crystal Palace 0 - 0 Everton	Fulham v Swansea City
Liverpool 4 - 0 Fulham	Hull City v Crystal Palace
Southampton 4 - 1 Hull City	Newcastle Utd v Norwich City
Norwich City 3 - 1 West Ham	Stoke City v Sunderland
Tottenham 0 - 1 Newcastle Utd	West Ham v Chelsea
Sunderland 1 - 0 Man City	Manchester City v Tottenham
Man Utd 1 - 0 Arsenal	Cardiff City v Man Utd
Swansea City 3 - 3 Stoke City	West Brom v Aston Villa
Matches 24/11/13	

One To Watch This Weekend...

If you can the friendlies, check out what Roy Hodgson has planned for England. If not, just hold on for another week till the Premier League is back!

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Return Of The Strike Partnership



London Eye

Robert Davis

Tactics and formations go in and out of fashion in the world of football faster than that pop star at the top of the charts that everyone likes. You know the one. What was innovating and ground-breaking one month is seen as archaic and defunct the next, but this season has seen the reappearance of a classic British football trait. Thought to have been cast aside by the influx of foreign ideologies, it hasn't been so frequently seen amongst Premier League since the turn of the Millennium.

Strike partnerships are a part of football folklore on these shores and it's a sight that gives football fans goosebumps when teams are announced. Two players forming a formidable goal-scoring force that on its day could pulverise the opposition as they work in unison, making fools of centre-backs through a telepathic understanding that feeds off the excitement of the crowd.

Through the years, the English game has seen forward pairings terrorise defenders and excite fans all over the world. The original 'SAS' of Chris Sutton and Alan Shearer

at Blackburn Rovers saw them become unlikely league champions in the 1994-1995 season whilst the pairing of Dwight Yorke and Andy Cole at Old Trafford went three better, winning Alex Ferguson the historic 1998-1999 treble and helped bring home his first Champions League trophy.

The list of great partnerships is endless and sparks debates in stadiums and bars up and down the country. Who was the best Premier League partnership? Niall Quinn and Kevin Phillips? Eidur Gudjohnson and Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink? Thierry Henry and Dennis Bergkamp? Robbie Fowler and Stan Collymore? But in recent years, it looked as if the front pairing had been left on the tactical scrap-heap for a more 'continental' approach.

José Mourinho's first term in charge at Chelsea saw a tantalising front three consisting of wingers Damien Duff and Arjen Robben joined by man-machine Didier Drogba in a 4-3-3 formation. Its instant success saw other managers in the league follow suit and soon, the 4-4-2 system was ridiculed by pundits and fans alike as clubs looked to change with the times of the forever evolving style of the Premier League. The European 4-3-3 was in and the very English 4-4-2 was definitely out.

This season though has seen a resurgence in the style and not only are strike partnerships back in vogue, they're proving to be a success as



Keegan and Toshack, Rush and Dalglish, Suarez and Sturridge? Can this be the year a new deadly duo can write their names into the Anfield history books?

well. There is a distinct change in the way the front two work in a modern, Premier League formation and the system has clearly evolved from a more predictable 'big man-little man' pairing for example.

Looking at the teams that have used two strikers this season most effectively show how the system has advanced. Liverpool, Manchester United and Manchester City have all reaped the benefits of playing two up top. Luis Suarez and Dan-

iel Sturridge form the new 'SAS' in Merseyside whilst David Moyes has stuck with Wayne Rooney and Robin van Persie and in the blue half of Manchester, Sergio Agüero and new-boy Álvaro Negredo lead the City front-line.

How each team deploys the system is very similar and does take a certain amount of forward knowhow and guile to execute and in this case, the likes of Suarez, Rooney and Agüero are given a free roam

just off of their striker partner whilst Sturridge, van Persie and Negredo predominantly play off of the last defender.

City's first goal in their 3-1 victory against West Ham United in October showed the new partnership system at its very best. Negredo, on the shoulder of the centre-back, looks to receive the pass from Yaya Touré as Agüero, given his free role runs in behind the static back line whilst Negredo lets the ball

run past him, leaving the Argentinian to coolly slot home past Jussi Jaaskelainen in the Hammers goal. There aren't many better sights in the game than two strikers cleverly outwitting the opposing team to create goals that look like they've been scored in their sleep, unless you're a West Ham fan, who ironically don't even have one striker, let alone two.

Given the ability of all three pairings, it's no surprise they're proving a success. Nearly 15% of all the goals scored in the Premier League this season have been netted by one of the six players mentioned, a total of 40 goals going into the international break. Look towards the second tier and it's also proving beneficial there with Danny Ings and Sam Vokes scoring 19 goals between them, propelling Burnley to the summit of the Championship table.

So it is with open arms that we welcome back strike partnerships into British football. Long may it ignite arguments throughout social networks and pubs and no longer will the person shouting 'bring on another striker!' be scoffed at by those that surround him who prefer a more cultured approach.

Two strikers are back, and they're here to stay.



Serie A
Luca Cetta

Winning it Marotta's way

He's been off-criticised during this time at Juventus, but following their 3-0 win over Napoli, director general Giuseppe Marotta could afford to smile.

Jorge Martinez, Eljero Elia and Milos Krsic – despite his positive start – are three names thrown at Juventus director general Giuseppe Marotta in derision. Three signings who failed to live to their multi-million Euro transfer fees.

Marotta has since had to play catch-up to appease Bianconeri supporters. His first season following a switch from Sampdoria was 2010-11, the second campaign running that Juve finished seventh. They say first impressions count, and for many Juventus fans Marotta was not cut out for a job at a top club.

It's not just the aforementioned trio. Even Leonardo Bonucci, today a favourite, was seen as an early failure. Another criticism was the inability to land the treasured 'top striker' until the addition of Carlos Tevez this season. It also led to the loan signing of Nicklas Bendtner, another unpopular move. Of the current side, netting Kwadwo Asa-



The Old Lady's Guiseppe Marotta

moah for €18m and 50 per cent of Mauricio Isla for €9m was also questioned.

But rattling off just those names does Marotta a disservice. It would be forgetting the likes of Tevez and Arturo Vidal, signed for under €15m respectively. It's also forgetting the free transfers or those signed for a nominal price. Players who are cornerstones of the current side. Andrea Barzagli was netted for €300,000. Andrea Pirlo cost nothing. Paul Pogba signed for €800,000 – the training compensation fee. Fernando Llorente was another Bosman capture.

For Marotta its opportunism. "We have signed Pogba on a free transfer and Andrea Pirlo before that. A club has to keep an eye on every situation, be ready to step in and also have a little bit of luck, not to mention a Coach who can make the most of these players."

It's not just all Marotta's doing. He's the public face, but works

closely with sporting director Fabio Paratici. Paratici generally works the foreign transfers. He has even been courted by Milan, given the rumours swirling around their supremo Adriano Galliani. High praise indeed.

Yet Marotta is not worried. "We are proud that one of our directors is linked with a very prestigious club. However, Juventus have reference points and a solid group of directors in me, Paratici, Pavel Nedved and President Andrea Agnelli. This team is very united and strong, so I see no siren song from elsewhere."

Moulding what the directors bring to Turin is Antonio Conte. His side needed to respond following their shock collapse at Fiorentina and in recent matches did so. Three games, three wins, seven goals scored and none conceded. It helped dispel the notion Juventus were not up for it this season.

A midweek Champions League

ITALY Serie A												Last 5 games	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Most recent first			Most recent first	
1 Roma	12	10	2	0	26	3	+23	32	DD	WWW			
2 Juventus	12	10	1	1	26	10	+16	31	DD	WWW			
3 Napoli	12	9	1	2	24	11	+13	28	L	WWW			
4 Internazionale	12	7	4	1	29	12	+17	25	W	DD	W		
5 Fiorentina	12	7	3	2	24	14	+10	24	W	W	L		
6 Hellas Verona	12	7	1	4	22	19	+3	22	L	W	W		
7 Genoa	12	5	2	5	13	14	-1	17	W	W	W		
8 Lazio	12	4	4	4	16	16	+0	16	D	L	D		
9 Atalanta	12	5	1	6	14	15	-1	16	W	L	D		
10 Milan	12	3	4	5	17	19	-2	13	D	L	D		
11 Parma	12	3	4	5	17	20	-3	13	D	L	L		
12 Udinese	12	4	1	7	11	15	-4	13	L	L	W		
13 Cagliari	12	3	4	5	13	20	-7	13	W	L	L		
14 Torino	12	2	6	4	18	21	-3	12	L	D	D		
15 Livorno	12	3	3	6	13	18	-5	12	L	W	D		
16 Bologna	12	2	4	6	14	24	-10	10	L	D	W		
17 Sassuolo	12	2	4	6	13	28	-15	10	D	W	L		
18 Sampdoria	12	2	3	7	13	22	-9	9	L	L	W		
19 Catania	12	2	3	7	8	19	-11	9	W	L	D		
20 Chievo	12	1	3	8	7	18	-11	6	D	L	L		

draw with Real Madrid was praised on a performance level, but wasn't exactly the ideal result. It leaves their qualification hopes hanging by a thread. In contrast, Sunday's opponent Napoli put themselves in a fine position by defeating Marseille. They too had won three straight in Serie A, and were level on points with Juve, three behind pacesetters Roma.

It took less than 120 seconds for a rapid Juventus to go ahead. Llorente turned in Isla's deflected shot, but replays showed he was off-side by centimetres – "The linesman needed a magnifying glass to see that, as he was 23cm offside. I find it sad that after a game we played so well for 90 minutes and won 3-0, the first thing I'm asked is about a marginal offside call," balked Conte post-game.

Both sides had chances to score thereafter, with Gianluigi Buffon and Pepe Reina in top form. It took a moment of Pirlo magic to break

open the game. His brilliant free kick gave Reina no chance. Soon after, Pogba's errant touch actually set himself up for a terrific volley from outside the penalty area. It was measured at 101 km/h.

On an unsavoury note, Juve were hit with a part stadium ban, with the Curva Sud closed for two games and the Curva Nord for one, thanks to chanting that cited under the 'territorial discrimination' rule which has made headlines. Napoli fans smashed up toilets blocks in the away section and four people went to hospital.

On the pitch, the 3-0 win proved Juventus are still heavy hitters. And each goal – Llorente, Pirlo and Pogba – was one of Marotta's transfer market gems. It's enough to turn around even those most fervent anti-Marotta fans.

It proved a crucial result as Roma had slipped up at home against Sassuolo earlier. Still missing Francesco Totti, things looked to

Latest Results	Next Match
Catania 1 - 0 Udinese	Hellas Verona v Chievo
Internazionale 2 - 0 Livorno	Milan v Genoa
Genoa 2 - 0 Hellas Verona	Napoli v Parma
Atalanta 2 - 1 Bologna	Livorno v Juventus
Cagliari 2 - 1 Torino	Sampdoria v Lazio
Chievo 0 - 0 Milan	Sassuolo v Atalanta
Roma 1 - 1 Lazio	Torino v Catania
Roma 1 - 1 Sassuolo	Udinese v Fiorentina
Fiorentina 2 - 1 Sampdoria	Bologna v Internazionale
Juventus 3 - 0 Napoli	Roma v Cagliari
Matches 24/11/13	

One To Watch This Weekend...

Just months out from the World Cup is a meeting against old foes Germany. Giuseppe Rossi is in line for his first Italy start in over two years and will hope to take his goalscoring form - 11 goals in 12 games - to the international stage.

be going well when Alessandro Longhi turned the ball into his own net to give the League leaders the advantage.

Marco Borriello added to Roma's attacking injuries, then deep into stoppage time Domenico Berardi – co-owned with Juventus – smashed home the equaliser as the ball bobbed around inside the penalty area. Juve's win means the gap is just one point, but despite two draws Roma remain first and unbeaten.

Meanwhile, Marco Parolo and Domenico Criscito have been called to the Italy squad for upcoming friendlies with Germany and Nigeria. Cesare Prandelli has the chance to experiment and has chosen the in-form Parma midfielder for the second time. He was part of the squad two years ago but did not play. Criscito returns to the Giro Azzurro following a number of injury setbacks.



Viva Espana

Pepe Lopez

Hamstring Injury Gets Messi

4 time Ballon D'or (Golden Ball – World Player of the Year) Award winner Lionel Messi has torn his hamstring in his most recent match against Real Betis in Seville over the past weekend.

Barcelona FC won the fixture 4-1 and extended their La Liga lead over 2nd placed Atletico Madrid by 3 points, however the loss of Lionel Messi has many people talking about the effect the injury will have on the Catalan club. With Barca 5 points clear at the top of their Champions League group, qualification as group winner appears assured, they have 2 remaining games away to Ajax Amsterdam and at home to Celtic FC, the effect will not so much hit in European competition as it might in the Spanish La Liga.

With the La Liga season a 3rd of the way in, Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid are just 1 and 2 wins behind Barcelona FC respectively. Messi's torn hamstring, now a re-occurring injury is estimated to keep the Argentine out of the Barcelona FC line-up for up to the



Ouch! Messi clasps the hamstring that outs him out for two months

next 8 weeks. In exactly 9 weeks time Barcelona FC have to travel to Madrid to play 2nd placed Atletico Madrid in the middle of the Spanish winter. Certainly not the ideal conditions to make a return to La Liga football. Giving Atletico Madrid a massive morale boost, in what has been described as a 2 horse race Spanish league for the past decade. There is now more to Spanish football than just the Clasico!

Barcelona FC Manager Tata Martino had this to say of Lionel Messi's injury;

"It doesn't have anything to do with the other leg – it's a problem with his left leg and the medical staff will look into it. We'll definitely have to speak with Leo to find out if this is upsetting him, but

it's the third episode that he's had recently and we don't know how that could affect him mentally. I don't know anything about medicine and it'll be up to the medical staff to take the decisions. I follow what they say strictly."

"I can't explain what's happening to him, if it's just coincidental or not. I don't want to talk about things I don't know about and first we need to understand how serious the problem is and then do our best to get him back fit. We have the best player in the world, but we also have four more that are amongst the six or seven best in the world, so we can't use an injury to the best player in the world as an excuse".

The official Barcelona FC medical

SPAIN La Liga												Last 5 games	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Most recent first			Most recent first	
1 Barcelona	13	12	1	0	38	8	+30	37	W	W	W		
2 Atlético Madrid	13	11	1	1	31	9	+22	34	D	W	W		
3 Real Madrid	13	10	1	2	35	17	+18	31	W	W	L		
4 Villarreal	13	7	3	3	21	13	+8	24	D	W	L		
5 Athletic Club	13	7	2	4	20	18	+2	23	W	L	D		
6 Getafe	13	6	2	5	17	14	+3	20	D	L	W		
7 Real Sociedad	13	4	5	4	19	17	+2	17	L	W	D		
8 Granada	13	5	2	6	11	13	-2	17	W	W	L		
9 Valencia	13	5	2	6	17	21	-4	17	D	W	L		
10 Levante	13	4	5	4	13	17	-4	17	L	L	D		
11 Sevilla	13	4	4	5	23	26	-3	16	W	L	L		
12 Espanyol	13	4	3	6	13	18	-5	15	L	D	L		
13 Elche	13	3	5	5	13	17	-4	14	D	L	D		
14 Málaga	13	3	4	6	15	19	-4	13	L	W	D		
15 Almería	13	3	3	7	15	24	-9	12	W	W	L		
16 Celta de Vigo	13	3	3	7	14	18	-4	12	L	W	L		
17 Real Valladolid	13	2	6	5	16	20	-4	12	D	L	D		
18 Rayo Vallecano	13	4	0	9	12	30	-18	12	W	L	L		
19 Osasuna	13	3	1	9	10	22	-12	10	L	W	L		
20 Real Betis	13	2	3	8	12	24	-12	9	L	D	L		

staff issued this statement; "According to the club's medical services, the tests taken on Monday morning by Leo Messi have confirmed that the player has suffered a torn muscle in the femoral biceps of his left leg. The approximate time he will be out is between six and eight weeks. The first part of his recovery will take place in Barcelona and the second, in Buenos Aires."


Fringe Barcelona FC midfielder Cesc Fabregas is one player who has everything to gain during Messi's absence, and without surprising anyone, encouraged the Argentine to rest up; "He needs to take as much time as he needs, to recover and get back to his level. We need him at his best,"


he said. I had something similar at Arsenal. You think you're okay, but you're not. I had this injury, I wasn't right for up to a year and half, it's a really frustrating injury. You need to take whatever time you need because if you don't it won't heal properly".

The add insult to injury, French man Franck Ribery has been listed as the short priced favourite to win the 2013 Ballon D'or award and take away the accolade from Lionel Messi for the 1st time since Cristiano Ronaldo won it back in 2008.

The Spanish La Liga will resume on the 25th of November after the international football window closes next week. Spain travels to the African continent to participate in a couple of friendlies against Equato-

rial Guinea and South Africa, and will be without many of their own players with injury, the list includes Manchester City's David Silva, Chelsea's Fernando Torres, Swansea's Michu, Barcelona's Jordi Alba and newly naturalised Atletico Madrid striker Diego Costa.

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CROATIA 1.HNL



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Dinamo Zagreb	16	11	3	2	26	9	+17	36	W W W L W
2 Hajduk Split	16	10	4	2	29	12	+17	34	W D W W D
3 Rijeka	15	8	5	2	26	11	+15	29	L W W L D
4 Lokomotiva	16	9	2	5	27	20	+7	29	W L L W L
5 Split	16	7	5	4	16	13	+3	26	D W W W D
6 Istra 1961	16	5	4	7	18	23	-5	19	L D D L W
7 Zadar	16	4	3	9	12	24	-12	15	L W L L D
8 Slaven Koprivnica	16	3	5	8	19	23	-4	14	L D D W W
9 Osijek	16	2	3	11	10	34	-24	9	D D L L D
10 Hrvatski Drago...	15	1	4	10	10	24	-14	7	L L L L D

GERMANY Bundesliga



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Bayern München	12	10	2	0	27	7	+20	32	W W W W D
2 Borussia Dortmund	12	9	1	2	32	11	+21	28	L W W W L
3 Bayer Leverkusen	12	9	1	2	27	14	+13	28	W L W W D
4 Borussia M'gla...	12	7	1	4	28	16	+12	22	W W W L W
5 Wolfsburg	12	7	0	5	18	14	+4	21	W W W W L
6 Schalke 04	12	6	2	4	23	23	+0	20	W W L W W
7 Hertha BSC	12	5	3	4	20	16	+4	18	W L L W D
8 Stuttgart	12	4	4	4	24	21	+3	16	W L D D D
9 Mainz 05	12	5	1	6	17	23	-6	16	W L W L D
10 Werder Bremen	12	4	3	5	13	20	-7	15	L W L D D
11 Hannover 96	12	4	2	6	14	19	-5	14	D L L L D
12 Hoffenheim	12	3	4	5	28	28	+0	13	L W L L D
13 Augsburg	12	4	1	7	13	23	-10	13	L W L L L
14 Hamburger SV	12	3	3	6	26	29	-3	12	L L W D W
15 Eintracht Fran...	12	2	4	6	14	21	-7	10	L L L D D
16 Freiburg	12	1	5	6	13	24	-11	8	W L D D D
17 Eintracht Brau...	12	2	2	8	8	23	-15	8	D W L L W
18 Nürnberg	12	0	7	5	12	25	-13	7	L L D D L

THE CHAMPIONSHIP



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Burnley	15	10	4	1	27	10	+17	34	D D W W W
2 Leicester City	15	10	2	3	24	15	+9	32	L W W W L
3 Queens Park Ra...	15	9	5	1	17	8	+9	32	D W D L D
4 Blackpool	15	7	6	2	19	14	+5	27	L W D W D
5 Nottingham Forest	15	7	5	3	23	16	+7	26	W L L D W
6 Reading	15	6	6	3	23	18	+5	24	D L D W L
7 Watford	15	6	5	4	27	20	+7	23	D L L D W
8 Leeds United	15	7	2	6	22	18	+4	23	W W L W L
9 Derby County	15	6	4	5	29	23	+6	22	W L D W W
10 Wigan Athletic	14	6	4	4	17	12	+5	22	W W D D L
11 Brighton & Hov...	15	5	6	4	18	14	+4	21	W W D D L
12 Ipswich Town	15	5	5	5	23	20	+3	20	W D D L D
13 Blackburn Rovers	15	5	4	6	20	19	+1	19	L W D L L
14 AFC Bournemouth	15	5	3	7	21	30	-9	18	D L L D W
15 Huddersfield Town	15	4	5	6	19	19	+0	17	L W L L L
16 Middlesbrough	15	3	7	5	25	24	+1	16	D L W L W
17 Bolton Wanderers	15	3	7	5	16	21	-5	16	W W D W D
18 Birmingham City	15	4	2	9	17	22	-5	14	W L D L L
19 Charlton Athletic	14	3	5	6	12	18	-6	14	L W D W D
20 Millwall	15	3	5	7	18	31	-13	14	L D D D L
21 Doncaster Rovers	14	3	4	7	12	23	-11	13	D L L L W
22 Sheffield Wedn...	14	1	8	5	17	23	-6	11	L W D D D
23 Barnsley	15	2	5	8	16	31	-15	11	D D D W L
24 Yeovil Town	15	2	3	10	9	22	-13	9	L W W L L

Greece Super League



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Olympiakos Piraeus	11	10	1	0	34	3	+31	31	W W W W W
2 PAOK	11	8	1	2	20	11	+9	25	L W W W W
3 Atromitos	11	5	3	3	17	10	+7	18	L D W W D
4 Panaitolikos	11	4	5	2	13	7	+6	17	W D W D W
5 Ergotelis	11	4	5	2	14	10	+4	17	W L D W W
6 Panathinaikos	11	5	2	4	13	11	+2	17	W L W L L
7 PAS Giannina	11	5	2	4	13	12	+1	17	W W D L L
8 Kalloni	11	5	0	6	13	17	-4	15	W W L L L
9 Asteras Tripolis	11	3	6	2	17	14	+3	15	D W L D L
10 Panionios	11	4	3	4	14	15	-1	15	W L W W L
11 Xanthi	11	4	2	5	14	18	-4	14	D L L W L
12 Panthrakikos	11	3	5	3	12	15	-3	14	L D L W D
13 Levadiakos	11	3	2	6	10	21	-11	11	L W L L W
14 Plataniás	11	2	5	4	11	15	-4	11	W L W L L
15 OFI	11	1	6	4	8	14	-6	9	W L D L D
16 Apollon Smirnis	11	2	2	7	11	20	-9	8	L D L D L
17 Aris	11	2	2	7	6	16	-10	8	L L L W W
18 Veria	11	1	4	6	8	19	-11	7	L D D L L

SCOTLAND SPL



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Celtic	12	9	3	0	27	11	+16	30	W D W D W
2 Inverness CT	12	8	1	3	20	11	+9	25	W W L L W
3 Aberdeen	13	7	2	4	19	11	+8	23	L W W W L
4 Motherwell	13	7	1	5	14	18	-4	22	L W L W L
5 St. Johnstone	13	6	3	4	22	14	+8	21	W W W L W
6 Dundee United	13	5	5	3	21	9	+12	20	W D W L W
7 Hibernian	13	4	3	6	9	14	-5	15	L L L D W
8 Partick Thistle	13	3	4	6	11	20	-9	13	L L L W L
9 St. Mirren	11	3	2	6	12	20	-8	11	W L W W D
10 Ross County	11	3	1	7	12	23	-11	10	L L W L W
11 Kilmarnock	13	2	3	8	14	21	-7	9	L W W L L
12 Heart of Midlo...	13	3	2	8	10	19	-9	-4	W L L L L

HOLLAND Eredivisie



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Vitesse	13	7	3	3	25	18	+7	24	W W D W L
2 AZ	13	7	2	4	23	19	+4	23	D W W W L
3 Ajax	13	6	4	3	26	15	+11	22	W L D D W
4 Groningen	13	6	4	3	28	25	+3	22	W D D W W
5 Twente	13	5	6	2	28	12	+16	21	D D L D W
6 Feyenoord	13	6	3	4	27	21	+6	21	D W L D W
7 PEC Zwolle	13	5	5	3	22	14	+8	20	D D L W D
8 PSV	13	5	4	4	24	14	+10	19	L D L L W
9 Heerenveen	12	5	3	4	29	25	+4	18	W L L L W
10 NAC Breda	13	5	3	5	22	18	+4	18	W L W L W
11 Roda JC	13	4	5	4	22	28	-6	17	L D W W D
12 Go Ahead Eagles	12	4	4	4	20	29	-9	16	W L D W L
13 Utrecht	13	4	3	6	17	26	-9	15	L W L W L
14 Heracles	12	4	2	6	16	22	-6	14	L W D L W
15 ADO Den Haag	12	4	1	7	17	27	-10	13	W L W L W
16 Cambuur	13	3	3	7	11	17	-6	12	L W L L L
17 RKC Waalwijk	13	2	3	8	18	29	-11	9	L W D L L
18 NEC	13	1	6	6	19	35	-16	9	L D W D L

LEAGUE ONE



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Leyton Orient	15	12	2	1	36	12	+24	38	W W L W W
2 Wolverhampton ...	15	11	3	1	29	10	+19	36	D W W W D
3 Peterborough U...	15	10	2	3	25	12	+13	32	L L D W W
4 Preston North End	15	7	6	2	23	16	+7	27	D W D W L
5 Brentford	15	8	3	4	20	17	+3	27	W W W W L
6 Bradford City	15	6	5	4	24	14	+10	23	D L D L L
7 Swindon Town	15	7	2	6	29	20	+9	23	W L L W W
8 Milton Keynes Dons	15	6	4	5	24	20	+4	22	W L L W L
9 Walsall	15	6	4	5	17	15	+2	22	L L W W D
10 Rotherham United	15	5	6	4	21	22	-1	21	D L D L L
11 Coventry City	15	9	3	3	34	22	+12	20	W W W D W
12 Port Vale	15	6	2	7	21	24	-3	20	L W W L L
13 Crawley Town	15	5	4	6	18	22	-4	19	L L L L W
14 Colchester United	15	3	8	4	15	20	-5	17	L D L D D
15 Shrewsbury Town	15	3	7	5	15	16	-1	16	W L D L W
16 Carlisle United	15	4	4	7	15	27	-12	16	D L L W L
17 Oldham Athletic	15	4	3	8	19	23	-4	15	D L W L W
18 Gillingham	15	4	3	8	18	24	-6	15	W L W L L
19 Stevenage	15	4	2	9	15	23	-8	14	L W L W L
20 Bristol City	15	2	7	6	23	27	-4	13	W D W L L
21 Tranmere Rovers	15	3	4	8	15	29	-14	13	D W D L W
22 Crewe Alexandra	15	3	4	8	12	31	-19	13	D L W W W
23 Sheffield United	15	3	3	9	13	23	-10	12	L W D W L
24 Notts County	15	3	1	11	17	29	-12	10	L W L L L

France Ligue 1



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Most recent first
1 PSG	13	9	4	0	27	8	+19	31	WWDWW
2 Lille	13	8	3	2	15	4	+11	27	DWWWW
3 Monaco	13	7	5	1	21	11	+10	26	DLDWD
4 Nantes	13	7	2	4	19	10	+9	23	WDLWW
5 Olympique Mars...	13	6	3	4	18	13	+5	21	WDLLL
6 Reims	13	4	7	2	15	12	+3	19	DWWLD
7 Olympique Lyonnais	13	5	3	5	19	16	+3	18	WLWDL
8 Guingamp	13	5	3	5	16	14	+2	18	DLWWW
9 Saint-Etienne	13	5	3	5	18	17	+1	18	LDDWW
10 Bastia	13	5	3	5	15	19	-4	18	WLWLW
11 Rennes	13	4	5	4	16	13	+3	17	LWDWL
12 Bordeaux	13	4	5	4	16	17	-1	17	LWWDW
13 Nice	13	5	2	6	14	16	-2	17	LLWLW
14 Evian TG	13	4	4	5	15	21	-6	16	DWWLL
15 Toulouse	13	4	4	5	11	19	-8	16	DLLWW
16 Montpellier	13	2	8	3	16	17	-1	14	DDLWW
17 Lorient	13	3	2	8	11	23	-12	11	LDWLL
18 Valenciennes	13	2	3	8	11	20	-9	9	DWLDD
19 Ajaccio	13	1	5	7	9	19	-10	8	DLLLL
20 Sochaux	13	1	4	8	11	24	-13	7	LDLDD

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